COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

| Joint Application of Duke Energy Corporation, Duke Energy Holding Corp., Deer Acquisition Corp., Cougar Acquisition Corp., Cinergy Corp., The Cincinnati Gas & Electric Company, and The Union Light, Heat and Power Company for Approval of a Transfer and Acquisition of Control | , | Case No. 2005-00228 |
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DIRECT TESTIMONY OF JOINT APPLICANTS

VOLUME I of II

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY



BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

AMG 1 2005

PUBLIC SERVICE

IN THE MATTER OF:

| JOINT APPLICATION OF DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION, DUKE ENERGY HOLDING CORP., DEER ACQUISITION CORP., COUGAR ACQUISITION CORP., CINERGY CORP., THE CINCINNATI GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY, AND THE UNION LIGHT, HEAT AND POWER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF A TRANSFER AND ACQUISITION OF CONTROL |) | CASE NO. 2005-00228 |
|--|---|---------------------|
| VOLUME 1 OF | 2 | |

THE UNION LIGHT, HEAT AND POWER COMPANY

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

- JAMES E. ROGERS
- RICHARD J. OSBORNE
- THOMAS J. FLAHERTY
- **GREGORY C. FICKE**
- JOHN C. PROCARIO

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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| Joint Application of Duke Energy Corporation, |) | |
|---|---|---------------------|
| Duke Energy Holding Corp., Deer Acquisition |) | |
| Corp., Cougar Acquisition Corp., Cinergy Corp., |) | Case No. 2005-00228 |
| The Cincinnati Gas & Electric Company, and |) | |
| The Union Light, Heat and Power Company for |) | |
| Approval of a Transfer and Acquisition |) | |
| of Control |) | |
| | | |

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

JAMES E. ROGERS

ON BEHALF OF

JOINT APPLICANTS

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I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

| 1 | Q. | PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS. |
|----------------------------------|----|---|
| 2 | A. | My name is James E. Rogers, and my business address is 139 East Fourth Street, |
| 3 | | Cincinnati, Ohio 45202. |
| 4 | Q. | BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND IN WHAT CAPACITY? |
| 5 | A. | I am Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Cinergy Corp. ("Joint |
| 6 | | Applicant" or "Cinergy"). Cinergy is the parent holding company of The Union |
| 7 | | Light Heat & Power Company ("Joint Applicant" or "ULH&P" or "Company"), |
| 8 | | its parent company, The Cincinnati Gas & Electric Company ("CG&E"), and PSI |
| 9 | | Energy, Inc. ("PSI""). I am also Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of |
| 10 | | ULH&P. |
| 11 | Q. | PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL |
| | | |
| 12 | | BACKGROUND. |
| 12 13 | A. | BACKGROUND. I received a bachelor's degree in Business Administration (1970) and a law |
| | A. | |
| 13 | A. | I received a bachelor's degree in Business Administration (1970) and a law |
| 13 14 | A. | I received a bachelor's degree in Business Administration (1970) and a law degree (1974) from the University of Kentucky. I became Vice Chairman, |
| 13 14 15 | A. | I received a bachelor's degree in Business Administration (1970) and a law degree (1974) from the University of Kentucky. I became Vice Chairman, President and Chief Operating Officer of Cinergy in October 1994, and I became |
| 13 14 15 16 | A. | I received a bachelor's degree in Business Administration (1970) and a law degree (1974) from the University of Kentucky. I became Vice Chairman, President and Chief Operating Officer of Cinergy in October 1994, and I became Chief Executive Officer in 1995. Prior to joining Cinergy, I was Chairman and |
| 13 14 15 16 17 | A. | I received a bachelor's degree in Business Administration (1970) and a law degree (1974) from the University of Kentucky. I became Vice Chairman, President and Chief Operating Officer of Cinergy in October 1994, and I became Chief Executive Officer in 1995. Prior to joining Cinergy, I was Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of PSI and PSI Resources, Inc., the parent company of |
| 13 14 15 16 17 | A. | I received a bachelor's degree in Business Administration (1970) and a law degree (1974) from the University of Kentucky. I became Vice Chairman, President and Chief Operating Officer of Cinergy in October 1994, and I became Chief Executive Officer in 1995. Prior to joining Cinergy, I was Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of PSI and PSI Resources, Inc., the parent company of PSI ("PSIR"). Before coming to PSI in October of 1988 as Chief Executive |
| 13 14 15 16 17 18 | A. | I received a bachelor's degree in Business Administration (1970) and a law degree (1974) from the University of Kentucky. I became Vice Chairman, President and Chief Operating Officer of Cinergy in October 1994, and I became Chief Executive Officer in 1995. Prior to joining Cinergy, I was Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of PSI and PSI Resources, Inc., the parent company of PSI ("PSIR"). Before coming to PSI in October of 1988 as Chief Executive Officer, I was Executive Vice President of the gas pipeline group of Enron Corp., |

| 1 | During that time, I represented natural gas pipelines, gas producers and electric |
|--------------|--|
| 2 | utilities before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") and various |
| 3 | federal courts. From 1981 to 1983, I was Deputy General Counsel for litigation |
| 4 | and enforcement at the FERC. In that position, I directed FERC's litigation |
| 5 | efforts in cases involving electric rates, hydroelectric licensing, gas producer and |
| 6 | gas pipeline rates. I began my career with the Kentucky Attorney General's |
| 7 | Office, representing consumer interests in utility cases. |
| 8 Q . | WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS |
| 9 | PROCEEDING? |
| 10 A. | My testimony focuses on the strategic rationale behind the proposed merger of |
| 11 | Cinergy and Duke Energy Corporation ("Duke Energy"), and the benefits of the |
| 12 | merger for all stakeholders - customers, investors, communities, and employees. |
| 13 | My testimony also provides some background information about Duke Energy, |
| 14 | explains the proposed transaction, explains the shared management values that |
| 15 | exist between Duke Energy and Cinergy, and discusses the success of the merger |
| 16 | that created Cinergy (i.e., the 1994 merger between CG&E and PSIR). |
| 17 Q. | PLEASE BRIEFLY OUTLINE THE REMAINDER OF JOINT |
| 18 | APPLICANTS' CASE-IN-CHIEF FILING. |
| 19 A. | Joint Applicants present the testimony of several witnesses designed to show that |
| 20 | the merger will not adversely affect our Kentucky stakeholders. First, Joint |
| 21 | Applicants present the testimony of Mr. Richard J. Osborne, Duke Energy's |
| 22 | Group Vice President, Public and Regulatory Policy. Mr. Osborne describes |

Duke Energy's businesses, its corporate and business structure, its executive

22

team, and Duke Energy's technical, managerial and financial ability to own ULH&P's utility operations. He also details Duke Energy's philosophy regarding corporate governance, and its commitment to system reliability, customer service, economic development, charitable works, and environmental stewardship.

Next, Mr. Thomas J. Flaherty of Booz Allen Hamilton describes the work he did for Cinergy and Duke Energy related to identifying and quantifying the net savings expected to result from the merger. Mr. Flaherty describes the various areas where savings are expected, and the estimated costs to achieve those savings.

ULH&P President, Mr. Gregory C. Ficke's testimony focuses on the local effect of the merger on ULH&P's operations in Kentucky. He describes how the merger will not adversely impact the areas of local presence, reliability and safety, customer service, rates, financial integrity, economic development, charitable giving, and environmental commitment. Mr. Ficke also speaks to the reasonableness of various affiliate agreements that ULH&P expects to enter into as a result of the merger.

The testimony of Mr. John Procario, Cinergy's Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Regulated Business Unit, focuses on ULH&P's provision of reliable natural gas and electric service presently and its continued commitment to providing reliable service to its customers after the merger. Additionally, Mr. Procario addresses ULH&P's continued commitment to the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc. ("Midwest ISO").

| 21 | Q. | PLEASE BRIEFLY DESCRIBE DUKE ENERGY AND DUKE POWER, |
|----|----|--|
| | | II. DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION |
| 20 | | beginning immediately after approval of the merger. |
| 19 | | front, prior to processing any retail natural gas or electric base rate case, and |
| 18 | | describes in detail how the net merger savings will be shared with customers up- |
| 17 | | Finally, the testimony of Mr. John P. Steffen, Vice President, Rates, |
| 16 | | among the various affiliated companies, including ULH&P. |
| 15 | | and costs to achieve merger savings calculated by Mr. Flaherty are then allocated |
| 14 | | the various affiliates of the new company, and describes how the merger savings |
| 13 | | and Analysis, discusses the service agreements, which will allocate costs among |
| 12 | | The testimony of Mr. Barry F. Blackwell, Director Management Reporting |
| 11 | | ULH&P's merger savings sharing proposal. |
| 10 | | opinion on financial issues related to the merger and on the reasonableness of |
| 9 | | Mr. Steven M. Fetter, of REGULATION UnFETTERED, offers his |
| 8 | | Agreement, which provides for loans between the utility company affiliates. |
| 7 | | of ULH&P, and sponsors the proposed Duke Energy Regulated Money Pool |
| 6 | | discusses how the merger is not expected to adversely affect the financial integrity |
| 5 | | The testimony of Ms. Wendy L. Aumiller, Vice President and Treasurer, |
| 4 | | financial statements related to the merger. |
| 3 | | Tax Sharing Agreement between ULH&P and its affiliates and pro forma |
| 2 | | discusses accounting issues related to the merger, and sponsors a proposed revised |
| 1 | | Ms. Lynn J. Good, Vice President Finance and Controller for Cinergy, |

ITS REGULATED UTILITY.

Duke Energy is a diversified energy company with a portfolio of electric and natural gas businesses, both regulated and non-regulated, and an affiliated real estate company. Duke Energy is headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina, and currently has approximately 21,500 employees. The subsidiaries of Duke Energy supply, deliver and process energy for customers in the Americas. As of December 31, 2004, Duke Energy had assets of \$55.5 billion, revenues of \$22.5 billion, and net income of \$1.5 billion.

A.

A.

Duke Power is a regulated utility that has provided safe, reliable and economically priced electric utility service in North Carolina and South Carolina for over 100 years. Duke Power serves approximately 2.2 million customers in North and South Carolina and owns and operates over 18,000 megawatts of generation, consisting of coal-fired, nuclear, gas and oil-fired, and hydro units. Duke Power also owns and operates approximately 13,000 miles of transmission lines, and 94,000 miles of distribution lines. Duke Power's retail electric rates are highly competitive – currently 21% below the national average.

III. THE PROPOSED TRANSACTION

16 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE PROPOSED MERGER TRANSACTION.

The proposed merger will be accomplished via an all-stock transaction. Essentially, via a series of mergers, conversions, and reorganizations, Cinergy, Duke Power, Duke Capital LLC, and Duke Energy Shared Services, LLC will become wholly-owned subsidiaries of a new Duke Energy holding company (to be named "Duke Energy Corporation" and referred to herein as the "New Duke Energy"). Holders of Cinergy common stock will receive 1.56 shares of New

| 1 | | Duke Energy holding company common stock for each share of Cinergy common |
|----|----|--|
| 2 | | stock held - a 13.4% premium for Cinergy shareholders based upon the Duke |
| 3 | | Energy and Cinergy stock prices immediately prior to the date of the merger |
| 4 | | announcement. As a result, the current holders of Cinergy common stock will |
| 5 | | become holders of the New Duke Energy holding company common stock, and |
| 6 | | Cinergy will become a wholly-owned subsidiary of the New Duke Energy. After |
| 7 | | completion of the merger, Duke Energy shareholders will own approximately |
| 8 | | 76% of the New Duke Energy holding company stock, and Cinergy shareholders |
| 9 | | will own approximately 24% of the New Duke Energy holding company stock. |
| 10 | Q. | HOW WILL THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NEW DUKE |
| 11 | | ENERGY HOLDING COMPANY BE DETERMINED? |
| 12 | A. | Duke Energy will have the right to name ten directors to the New Duke Energy |
| 13 | | holding company board, and Cinergy will have the right to name five directors. |
| 14 | | Paul Anderson, Duke Energy's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, will be the |
| 15 | | Chairman of the New Duke Energy holding company board. |
| 16 | Q. | HOW WILL CINERGY'S AND ULH&P'S CORPORATE |
| 17 | | HEADQUARTERS BE AFFECTED BY THE MERGER? |
| 18 | A. | The New Duke Energy holding company's corporate headquarters will be in |
| 19 | | Charlotte, North Carolina. ULH&P's and Cinergy's corporate headquarters wil |
| 20 | | remain in Cincinnati, Ohio. |
| 21 | Q. | WHAT IMPACT WILL THE MERGER HAVE ON THE MANAGEMENT |
| | | |

TEAM AND EMPLOYEES OF ULH&P AND CINERGY?

Decisions on the composition of management teams have yet to be made, for the most part. Paul Anderson and I are completing a process of interviewing senior management from both companies and as our integration planning proceeds, we will select the absolute best team from both companies to present for approval to the board of the combined company. However, pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement, I will be the President and Chief Executive Officer of the New Duke Energy holding company. I do not foresee any significant management changes within ULH&P as a result of the merger.

A.

With regard to employees, we are projecting that we will be able to reduce the total combined Duke Energy / Cinergy workforce by approximately 5%, due to elimination of duplicative and overlapping positions. Most of these reductions will occur in areas such as corporate and administrative functions, certain planning functions, purchasing, and information technology, as well as on the non-regulated sides of the businesses. The number of employees who are directly involved in the production, transmission, and distribution of electricity, the distribution of natural gas, and in customer service, is not expected to be affected by the merger. We will achieve the necessary workforce reductions primarily through means such as normal attrition and retirements, early retirements and other severance programs.

IV. STRATEGIC RATIONALE FOR THE MERGER

Q. WHAT IS CINERGY'S STRATEGIC RATIONALE FOR MERGING
WITH DUKE ENERGY?

1 A. Cinergy's management and board of directors considered a number of factors
2 pertaining to the strategic rationale for the merger, including:

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- Increased Scale and Scope, Diversification of Risk. The combined company will have greater diversification of markets and regulatory operations and more balance in its electric and gas businesses and generation portfolio. For example, the generation portfolio will have a greater balance in terms of fuel source, as well as geography, dispatch, and load-servicing capabilities. The combined company will also create a stronger portfolio of utility businesses with approximately 3.7 million retail electric customers and 1.7 million retail gas customers in Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Ontario, Canada. The retail electric businesses will have more than 25,000 megawatts of generation and broad operational and We believe that the regulated businesses will regulatory experience. contribute to stable earnings for the combined company, and will create the financial strength and scale to participate in the continuing consolidation of the utility sector, all at lower risk due to the broader diversification described above.
 - Anticipated Financial Strength and Flexibility. The combined company will have electric and gas businesses with stand-alone scale. Based on implied market capitalization, the electric business will be one of the top five in the United States; the gas business will be the largest in North America. This increased scale and diversification of the combined company's

operations are expected to provide improved earnings and cash flows, and 1 improved financial stability and flexibility for the combined company. 2 Stronger Merchant Power Platform. With more than 16,000 megawatts of 3 unregulated generation, we believe that the combined merchant power 4 operation will benefit from increased fuel and market diversity. We also 5 believe that Duke Energy's gas-fired merchant generation in the Midwest 6 complements Cinergy's coal-fired generation in this region. 7 Shared Vision. Cinergy and Duke Energy share a common vision of the 8 future of the energy industry, as well as a common and consistent 9 commitment to providing low cost, reliable and high quality service to our 10 11 customers. Combined Expertise. The merger will combine complementary areas of 12 expertise, and the combined company is expected to be able to draw upon the 13 intellectual capital, technical expertise, and experience of a deeper, more 14 diverse workforce. 15 Common Regulatory Framework. Each regulatory framework in the five 16 states where the combined company will operate utilities has some unique 17 attributes, but all provide constructive regulation for customers and investors. 18 Moreover, the merger provides for the opportunity to benefit from both 19 companies' experience and knowledge in dealing with the complexities of 20

Cost Savings and Synergies. Although there are no guarantees that all these

savings will be achieved, we have estimated that the combination will

regulation.

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ultimately produce a total of approximately \$1.3 billion of net savings by the end of five years, and over \$500 million in annual steady-state savings for the combined company going forward. These cost savings are expected to result from elimination of duplicate spending and overlapping functions, improved sourcing strategies, and the consolidation of the two companies' non-regulated business unit operations.

V. STAKEHOLDER BENEFITS

- Q. IN YOUR VIEW, WILL THE MERGER PROVIDE BENEFITS FOR
 CINERGY'S AND ULH&P'S STAKEHOLDERS ITS CUSTOMERS,
 INVESTORS, COMMUNITIES AND EMPLOYEES?
 - A. Yes, I strongly believe that the merger will benefit all of our stakeholders. All stakeholders will benefit from having a financially stronger and more diverse combined company.

Customers will benefit from the sharing of estimated synergies and cost savings, from the sharing of "best practices" with a high performing utility such as Duke Power, and from the combined company's continuing commitment to providing safe, reliable natural gas and electric utility service. The merger, and the synergies and savings that will be created as a result, will help ULH&P keep its rates competitive. The ability to partner with and learn from Duke Power – a top quality utility company – will only serve to improve the quality of service we provide to customers here in Kentucky.

Our shareholders will benefit from owning a stronger company, and from the impact of the estimated synergies and cost savings. In addition, they will benefit from the share exchange ratio negotiated in the merger agreement.

Our communities (and our customers) will benefit from the combined company's continued support of charitable, philanthropic, and service initiatives in the states we serve. We have a continuing commitment to maintain our local presence throughout our Kentucky service territory, and to continue our record of being a leader in economic development in the communities we serve. Duke Energy has an exemplary history with regard to community service, and our merger will be a unique opportunity to build on the combined experience and dedication of the employees of our two companies in this regard.

Our employees will benefit from having a financially stronger and more diversified employer. Opportunities for varied positions and career growth will be enhanced in the larger, multi-faceted organization. The increased scale and scope will position the New Duke Energy well for the future, making it an attractive company capable of maintaining the reputation Cinergy already enjoys as an employer of choice.

VI. <u>CINERGY'S MERGER TRACK RECORD</u>

- Q. THIS IS NOT THE FIRST MERGER FOR ULH&P. NOW THAT IT HAS

 BEEN OVER TEN YEARS SINCE THE CREATION OF CINERGY, HOW

 DO YOU RATE THE SUCCESS OF THE CINERGY MERGER?
- 21 A. I consider the Cinergy merger to be very successful. Cinergy's total shareholder 22 return from October 1994 through 2004 was 227.8%, which is an annualized

average return of 12.7% to investors each year. Since 1994, Cinergy has increased its assets by 84%, operating income by 68%, and revenues by 62%. Cinergy has increased its retail customers by about 17%, all while decreasing its employee count (and thus labor costs) by about 12%. We are a larger, more efficient company providing greater value to all of our stakeholders.

Most importantly, with the Cinergy merger, we created approximately \$1.5 billion in cost savings over the first ten years. These savings helped keep our retail electric and gas rates in Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky lower than they otherwise would have been. In fact, Cinergy's operating utilities continue to have some of the lowest electric rates in the region. When adjusted for inflation, ULH&P's 2004 average retail electric rates are lower than they were in 1994.

In the volatile area of fuel costs, while on the rise due to higher natural gas and coal costs, Cinergy's overall fuel cost per MWH has remained relatively flat from 1994 to 2004. Cinergy's electric and natural gas customer service costs per customer have decreased since 1994, all while maintaining excellent customer service, as evidenced by our recent call center award from J.D. Power and Associates.

These cost containment achievements are remarkable considering that using the annual average CPI, inflation alone has increased costs by an average of 27.4% since 1994.

At the same time, Cinergy has consistently outperformed the J.D. Power and Associates' regional and national average for customer satisfaction with Power Quality and Reliability. Additionally, since 1994 we have increased our

overall customer satisfaction as evidenced by customer and industry surveys. For the almost eleven years since the Cinergy merger, ULH&P has maintained a strong local presence in its service territories. As described in the testimony of Mr. Ficke, we have maintained a successful economic development program, and a continuing commitment to philanthropy in Kentucky.

ULH&P's and Cinergy's track record with its previous merger is excellent, and bodes well for the success of the proposed Duke Energy / Cinergy merger.

VII. SHARED VALUES

Q. FROM A REGULATED UTILITY PERSPECTIVE, WHY IS DUKE ENERGY A GOOD MERGER PARTNER FOR CINERGY AND ULH&P?

As I previously mentioned, Duke Power, the regulated utility arm of Duke Energy, has a long and proud history and tradition of providing high quality electric service and of exhibiting good corporate citizenship. Our shared values in these areas are striking, and lead me to believe that the merger will be highly successful for all of our stakeholders.

At Cinergy, we believe our core purpose is to provide reliable, competitively priced energy and related services to millions of people, making their lives safer, healthier and more comfortable. We aspire to be the energy company preferred by each of our stakeholders: customers, employees, investors, suppliers, and the communities we serve. Cinergy's core values include:

• Social Responsibility

A.

• Economic Progress

| 1 | • Environmental Improvement |
|---|--|
| 2 | • Ethical Business Practices |
| 3 | As Cinergy strives to meet its purpose, we stay focused on the following guiding |
| 4 | principles: |
| 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 | Focus on the customer – Listen. Show respect. Take ownership. Take action. Honor commitments. Demonstrate environmental stewardship in all we do. Practice ethics, integrity and transparency in all that we do. Be bold, aim high, and expect high performance from yourself, your colleagues and your company. Strive for continuous improvement. Think beyond what has been done before and find new ways to work better, faster, and cheaper. Turn challenges and risks into opportunities by being proactive and creative. Be flexible by being open to change and willing to learn new skills. Demonstrate respect and value the opinions and differences of others. Emphasize "Safety Always!" – Watch out for the safety of each other and the public. Value teamwork – One company, one stock, one team. |
| 20 | Similarly, Duke Energy has adopted a Charter emphasizing that, in conducting |
| 21 | its business, Duke Energy values: |
| 22 23 | • Stewardship – A commitment to health, safety, environmental responsibility and our communities. |
| 24 | • Integrity – Ethically and honestly doing what we say we will do. |
| 25 26 | Respect for the Individual – Embracing diversity and inclusion, enhanced by openness, sharing, trust, teamwork and involvement. |
| 27 28 | • High Performance – The excitement and fulfillment of achieving superior business results and stretching our capabilities. |
| 29 30 | • Win-Win Relationships – Having relationships which focus on the creation of value for all parties. |
| 31 32 | • Initiative – Having the courage, creativity and discipline to lead change and shape the future. |

| 1 | These shared values should serve the combined-company well and make |
|--------------|---|
| 2 | for a seamless and successful integration. |
| 3 | The testimony of Mr. Ficke details how CG&E's reliability, competitive |
| 4 | rates, quality of customer service, support for economic development and |
| 5 | charitable giving, and environmental commitment will not be adversely affected |
| 6 | by the merger. Additionally, the testimony of Mr. Ficke and Mr. Osborne detail |
| 7 | Duke Energy's commitment to these important values. |
| 8 Q . | PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR CONTINUING COMMITMENT TO |
| 9 | BUSINESS ETHICS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE. |
| 10 A. | At Cinergy, our code of conduct and business ethics and governing policies set |
| 11 | the values and strategic guidance for how we want to perform as a company. |
| 12 | Cinergy was one of the first companies in the U. S. to establish a board-level |
| 13 | corporate governance committee in 1994. Cinergy has been frequently ranked in |
| 14 | the top ten of U.S. companies under Institutional Shareholder Services' Corporate |
| 15 | Governance Quotient rating. GovernanceMetrics International has given Cinergy |
| 16 | a score of "8.0" out of "10" in both their Home and Global Markets. These |
| 17 | ratings demonstrate that we have both a strong corporate governance structure and |
| 18 | have executed on that structure. |
| 19 | Similarly, Duke Energy strives to serve its customers, employees, |
| 20 | investors, business partners and suppliers ethically and honestly. In addition to its |
| 21 | Charter outlining Duke Energy's purpose and values, Duke Energy has an |
| 22 | extensive Code of Business Ethics including areas such as accuracy of books and |

records, confidential information, environment health and safety, political giving,

| 1 | | harassment, safeguarding company resources and risk management. Additionally, |
|---|-----------------|--|
| 2 | | Duke Energy's Board has a Corporate Governance Committee. |
| 3 | | I vow to continue my personal commitment to strong corporate |
| 4 | | governance and business ethics in the New Duke Energy. |
| 5 | Q. | ULH&P IS A FOUNDING MEMBER AND HAS BEEN A STRONG |
| 6 | | SUPPORTER OF THE MIDWEST ISO. WILL THE MERGER CHANGE |
| 7 | | THIS COMMITMENT? |
| 8 | A. | No. ULH&P is committed to the success of the Midwest ISO, and will remain so |
| 9 | | after the merger. We believe the Midwest ISO enhances reliability of the |
| 10 | | transmission system and can provide for an enhanced competitive wholesale |
| 11 | | energy market to the benefit of all of ULH&P's stakeholders. The merger will |
| 12 | | not affect ULH&P's participation in or commitment to the Midwest ISO. |
| | | VIII. CONCLUSION |
| | | |
| 13 | Q. | PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR CONCLUSIONS CONCERNING THE |
| 13 14 | Q. | PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR CONCLUSIONS CONCERNING THE IMPACT OF THE MERGER ON ULH&P AND ITS STAKEHOLDERS. |
| | Q. A. | |
| 14 | | IMPACT OF THE MERGER ON ULH&P AND ITS STAKEHOLDERS. |
| 14 15 | | IMPACT OF THE MERGER ON ULH&P AND ITS STAKEHOLDERS. Duke Energy and Cinergy are complementary companies, with shared values and |
| 141516 | | IMPACT OF THE MERGER ON ULH&P AND ITS STAKEHOLDERS. Duke Energy and Cinergy are complementary companies, with shared values and a history of providing reliable and quality service to our customers. The |
| 14151617 | | IMPACT OF THE MERGER ON ULH&P AND ITS STAKEHOLDERS. Duke Energy and Cinergy are complementary companies, with shared values and a history of providing reliable and quality service to our customers. The combined company will be larger and more diverse, enabling it to adjust to |
| 14 15 16 17 18 | | IMPACT OF THE MERGER ON ULH&P AND ITS STAKEHOLDERS. Duke Energy and Cinergy are complementary companies, with shared values and a history of providing reliable and quality service to our customers. The combined company will be larger and more diverse, enabling it to adjust to changing market conditions. Cinergy, under my leadership, has solid history of a |

stakeholders of the New Duke Energy.

| 1 | Ο. | DOES THAT CONCLUDE Y | OUR PREPARED | DIRECT TESTIMONY? |
|---|----|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
|---|----|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|

2 A. Yes, it does.

VERIFICATION

| State of Ohio) SS: |
|---|
| County of Hamilton) |
| The undersigned, James E. Rogers, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is |
| the Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Cinergy Corp. |
| ("Cinergy"), that he has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the |
| foregoing testimony, and that the answers contained therein are true and correct to |
| Subscribed and sworn to before me by <u>James E. Rogers</u> , on |
| this <u>8 th</u> day of <u>July</u> , 2005. |
| NOTARY PUBLIC |
| My Commission Expires: |
| ANITA M. SCHAFEF |

Notary Public, State of Ohio My Commission Expires November 4, 2009

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

| In the Matter of: | | |
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| Joint Application of Duke Energy Corporation, Duke Energy Holding Corp., Deer Acquisition Corp., Cougar Acquisition Corp., Cinergy Corp., The Cincinnati Gas & Electric Company, and The Union Light, Heat and Power Company for Approval of a Transfer and Acquisition of Control |)))))) | Case No. 2005-00228 |
| DIRECT TESTIMONY O | F | |
| RICHARD J. OSBORNI | C | |
| ON BEHALF OF | | |
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APPENDIX

 $ATTACHMENT\ RJO\text{-}1-Duke\ Energy's\ North\ American\ Assets.$

 $ATTACHMENT\ RJO-2-Duke\ Energy's\ Generation\ Assets.$

I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

- 1 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.
- 2 A. Richard J. Osborne, 526 South Church Street, Charlotte, North Carolina 28202.
- 3 Q. PLEASE BRIEFLY DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATION.
- 4 A. I graduated from Tufts University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics
- and history, and I earned my MBA from the University of North Carolina at
- 6 Chapel Hill.
- 7 Q. WHO IS YOUR CURRENT EMPLOYER, AND WHAT IS YOUR
- 8 CURRENT POSITION WITH THAT EMPLOYER?
- 9 A. I am Group Vice President, Public and Regulatory Policy, for Duke Energy
- 10 Corporation ("Duke Energy"). I have overall responsibility for the company's
- public policy agenda and relationships with regulators, legislators, communities
- and other key stakeholders. I serve on the company's Executive Committee,
- which drives corporate strategy, transactions, financial plans and enterprise
- 14 policy.
- 15 Q. PLEASE BRIEFLY SUMMARIZE YOUR WORK EXPERIENCE.
- 16 A. I served in Duke Power's financial/administration summer internship program in
- 17 1974, and joined the company as a Financial Analyst in 1975. I was named
- Manager of Financial Relations in 1980, Manager of Treasury activities in May
- 19 1981, and Treasurer in August 1981. I was elected Vice President of Finance in
- 20 1988, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer in 1991, and Senior Vice
- 21 President in 1994. Following the creation of Duke Energy in 1997, I was named
- 22 Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. I was named Executive

| 1 | | Vice President and Chief Risk Officer in 2000. I was named to my current |
|----|----|--|
| 2 | | position on January 1, 2004. |
| 3 | Q. | PLEASE DESCRIBE ANY PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND |
| 4 | | OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES, IF ANY, YOU BELIEVE ARE RELEVANT TO |
| 5 | | YOUR TESTIMONY. |
| 6 | A. | I have been active in the Edison Electric Institute ("EEI") and am past chairman |
| 7 | | of the EEI Executive Committee on Finance, Taxes and Regulation. I am also a |
| 8 | | member of the Financial Executives Institute. |
| 9 | | I serve on the boards of directors of NEIL (Nuclear Electric Insurance |
| 10 | | Limited), Johnson C. Smith University, the Museum of the New South, the |
| 11 | | Charlotte Symphony and United Way of Central Carolinas. |
| 12 | Q. | HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED BEFORE ANY REGULATORY |
| 13 | | AGENCIES? |
| 14 | A. | Yes. I have testified before the North Carolina Utilities Commission and Public |
| 15 | | Service Commission of South Carolina. |
| 16 | Q. | WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS |
| 17 | | PROCEEDING? |
| 18 | A. | The purpose of my testimony is to introduce Duke Energy to the Commission, to |
| 19 | | discuss the strategic, policy and financial reasons that support our merger with |
| 20 | | Cinergy Corp. ("Cinergy"), and to establish that Duke Energy has the managerial |
| 21 | | financial and technical capability to manage and operate The Union Light, Hear |
| 22 | | and Power Company. ("ULH&P") |

II. A GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF DUKE ENERGY

A. THE DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS

| | 1 | Q. | PLEASE PROVIDE A GENERAL FINANCIAL DESCRIPTION OF DUKE |
|---|----|----|--|
| | 2 | | ENERGY. |
| | 3 | A. | Duke Energy is a Fortune 500 company, ranking number 86 in the magazine's |
| | 4 | | 2005 rankings. As of December 31, 2004, Duke Energy has assets of \$55.5 |
| | 5 | | billion, revenues of \$22.5 billion and net income of \$1.5 billion. |
| | 6 | Q. | PLEASE PROVIDE A FURTHER DESCRIPTION OF DUKE ENERGY |
| | 7 | | AND ITS BUSINESSES. |
| | 8 | A. | Duke Energy is a diversified energy company with a portfolio of both regulated |
| | 9 | | and unregulated natural gas and electric businesses throughout the Americas, and |
| £ | 10 | | an affiliated real estate company. Duke Energy is headquartered in Charlotte, |
| | 11 | | North Carolina, and traces its roots to 1904 when its first hydroelectric power |
| | 12 | | plant on the Catawba River opened to serve a single customer - a textile mill in |
| | 13 | | South Carolina. Our current gas transmission businesses date to 1947, and began |
| | 14 | | by building and expanding interstate pipeline systems to carry natural gas from |
| | 15 | | the Gulf of Mexico to the Northeast United States. Over the past century, Duke |
| | 16 | | Energy has grown to become one of the world's leading energy companies by |
| | 17 | | continuing to focus on operational excellence, safety, environmental stewardship |
| | 18 | | and customer and community service, wherever we do business. |
| | 19 | | Today, Duke Energy owns and operates power generation assets with the |
| | 20 | | capability of 32,000 MW and operates an additional 3,000 MW of generation |
| | 21 | | assets for others. Duke Energy owns 17,500 miles of natural gas transmission |

| 1 | pipeline, and jointly with ConocoPhilips, 59,000 miles of gas gathering pipeline. |
|---|---|
| 2 | Attached as Attachment RJO-1 is a map illustrating the location of Duke Energy's |
| 3 | North American assets. |

Duke Energy's principal businesses include the following:

Duke Power, a division of Duke Energy, is headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina, and is one of the largest investor-owned utilities in the United States with 2.2 million electric customers in its 22,000 square-mile service territory in central and western North Carolina and western South Carolina. Duke Power owns and operates a diverse mix of generating facilities, with eight coal-fired generating stations (7,754 MW), three nuclear stations (5,020 MW owned, 6,996 MW operated), 31 hydroelectric stations, including two pumped storage facilities (2,819 MW), two combustion turbine stations and several additional combustion turbine units (2,446 MW). I attach as Attachment RJO-2, a more detailed description of Duke Power's generation assets. Duke Power's 13,000-mile electric transmission system has interconnection to the following eight neighboring utilities: AEP, Southern Company, Southeastern Power Association, Santee Cooper, South Carolina Electric & Gas, Progress Energy Carolinas, Yadkin, and TVA.

Duke Energy Gas Transmission ("DEGT") is headquartered in Houston,
Texas, and transports natural gas through pipelines to markets in the northeastern
and southeastern United States and in the Pacific Northwest and Canada. DEGT
has more than 60 years of experience in designing, planning, constructing,
operating and maintaining long-haul (interstate and interprovincial) natural gas

| systems, with more than 17,500 miles of transmission pipeline. In addition to its |
|--|
| transmission pipeline assets, DEGT has significant depleted reservoir and salt |
| cavern natural gas storage capabilities of approximately 250 billion cubic feet in |
| the United States and Canada, as well as two liquid natural gas storage and |
| regasification facilities. DEGT's Texas Eastern Transmission, LP owns and |
| operates 1,050 miles of pipeline in Ohio, 254 miles in Indiana and 691 miles in |
| Kentucky. Texas Eastern Transmission, LP has compressor stations located in |
| Athens, Berne, Five Points, Glen Karin, Lebanon, Somerset, Summerfield and |
| Wheelersburg, Ohio; Batesville, French Lick, Gas City, Oakland City and |
| Seymour, Indiana; and in Danville, Owingsville, and Tompkinsville Station |
| Kentucky. Through Union Gas, an integrated natural gas storage, transmission |
| and distribution company, DEGT distributes natural gas to some 1.2 million retain |
| customers in Ontario, Canada. |
| |

Duke Energy Americas includes Duke Energy North America ("DENA"), which owns and operates merchant power generation facilities and markets electricity, natural gas, energy management and related services to wholesale customers throughout North America, and Duke Energy International ("DEI"), which owns and operates power generation facilities and sells electric power and natural gas in Latin America.

Duke Energy Field Services ("DEFS") is headquartered in Denver, Colorado and is the largest producer of natural gas liquids ("NGLs"), and one of the largest NGLs marketers, in North America. DEFS gathers, processes,

| 1 | | transports, markets and stores natural gas and produces, transports and markets |
|----------|----|---|
| 2 | | NGLs. DEFS is a joint venture of Duke Energy and ConocoPhillips. |
| 3 | | Crescent Resources is headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina, and |
| 4 | | manages land holdings and develops high quality commercial, residential and |
| 5 | | multi-family real estate projects in nine states. |
| 6 | | DukeNet Communications is headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina |
| 7 | | and develops and manages fiber optic communications systems in North Carolina, |
| 8 | | South Carolina and Georgia for wireless, local and long-distance communications |
| 9 | | companies and selected large-business customers. |
| | | B. <u>CORPORATE STRUCTURE</u> |
| 10 | Q. | PLEASE DESCRIBE DUKE ENERGY'S CORPORATE AND |
| 11 | | MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE AND PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT |
| 12 | | DUKE ENERGY'S EXECUTIVE LEADERS. |
| 13 | A. | Currently, Duke Energy is a North Carolina corporation and is organized as |
| 14 | | follows: Duke Power is a division of Duke Energy and is not a separate legal |
| 15 | | entity. Duke Energy's wholly-owned subsidiary Duke Capital, is the parent of |
| 16 | | DEGT, DENA, DEI, Crescent Resources and DukeNet Communications, and |
| 17 | | holds Duke Energy's interests in DEFS. |
| 18 | | Holds Dake Ellergy & Miles Color and Eller and |
| | | Duke Energy is led by an Executive Committee that drives corporate |
| 19 | | |
| 19 20 | | Duke Energy is led by an Executive Committee that drives corporate |

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L. Hauser, Group Vice President and Chief Financial Officer; Jim W. Mogg,

Group Vice President and Chief Development Officer; A.R. Mullinax, Group Vice President, Duke Energy Business Services and Chief Information Officer; Thomas C. O'Connor, Group Vice President, Corporate Strategy; B. Keith Trent, Group Vice President and General Counsel & Secretary, and me in my capacity of Group Vice President Public and Regulatory Policy.

Duke Energy's Expanded Executive Committee is charged with addressing succession planning, business unit strategies, goals and objectives, corporate policies that reach across business units, and other issues. The Expanded Executive Committee includes members of the Executive Committee and Ruth Shaw, President and CEO of Duke Power, Martha B. Wyrsch, President and CEO of DEGT, W.H. (Bill) Easter, Chairman, President and CEO of DEFS and Bobby Evans, President and CEO of Duke Energy Americas. These leaders of the major operating groups are integrated with strategy and policy to the extent appropriate under applicable Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's ("FERC") standards of conduct.

Now, let me provide the background of some of Duke Energy's leaders:

Mr. Anderson has been Chairman and CEO since November 1, 2003. Mr. Anderson previously served as managing director and CEO of global natural resources group BHP Billiton Ltd, an Australian-listed company, and BHP Billiton PLC, a U.K.-listed company from which he retired on July 1, 2002. Prior to joining BHP, Mr. Anderson had a career that spanned more than 20 years at Duke Energy and its predecessor companies, including a key leadership role in the merger of Duke Power and PanEnergy in June 1997. At the time of the

merger, Mr. Anderson was Chairman, President and CEO of PanEnergy and then served as President and COO of Duke Energy from 1997 until his departure for BHP Billiton in 1998.

Mr. Fowler has been President and COO of Duke Energy since November 2002 and is responsible for the operational, commercial and financial results of Duke Energy's energy-related businesses. He joined the company in 1985 and became General Manager of subsidiary Panhandle Trading Company ("PTC"), an independent buyer and reseller of natural gas in the national spot market. In 1987, he was named Vice President and General Manager of PTC. Mr. Fowler became Vice President of Marketing, Transportation and Exchange for Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line Co. and Trunkline Gas Co. in 1988, and served in the same capacity for Panhandle Eastern, Trunkline and Texas Eastern Transmission Corp. in 1989. He was elected President of Trunkline in 1991 and Corporate Vice President of Marketing for PanEnergy in 1992. Mr. Fowler was elected President of Texas Eastern in 1994 and named Group Vice President for PanEnergy Corp. in 1996. He then became Group President of Energy Transmission for Duke Energy in 1997.

Mr. Hauser joined Duke Power in 1973 and has been Group Vice President and CFO since February 2004. For the first 20 years of his career, he held various accounting positions, including controller. He later served as Vice President, Procurement Services and Materials; Vice President of Global Asset Development; and then Treasurer. He is a Certified Public Accountant and Certified Purchasing Manager.

| Dr. Shaw has been President of Duke Power since 2003, and was named |
|---|
| President and CEO in October, 2004. She leads one of the largest electric utilities |
| in the United States. Dr. Shaw joined Duke Power in 1992 as vice president of |
| Corporate Communications and was named Senior Vice President of Corporate |
| Resources in 1994. Prior to her current role, she served as Duke Energy's |
| Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer, and as President of |
| the Duke Energy Foundation. Prior to joining Duke Power, Dr. Shaw served as |
| President of Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, and was previously |
| President of El Centro College in Dallas, Texas. |

Following the merger with Cinergy, the new Duke Energy Corporation ("New Duke Energy") will be a Delaware corporation. New Duke Energy will be headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina. Mr. Anderson will be Chairman of the Board and Mr. James E. Rogers of Cinergy will become President and CEO. All of the business and corporate units, except for DEGT and DEFS will report to Mr. Rogers. Mr. Fowler will lead the gas businesses. Mr. Fowler will report to Mr. Anderson for strategy and to Mr. Rogers for operations. Local headquarters of the operating utilities will remain unchanged by the merger.

Although the full details of the post-merger corporate organization have not been finalized, we anticipate at this time that the New Duke Energy will be the parent of Duke Power Company, LLC, Cinergy, Duke Capital, LLC and a Services Company. Duke Capital will continue to be the parent company of DEGT, DENA, DEI, Crescent Resources, DukeNet Communications and hold Duke Energy's interests in DEFS. Duke Power will become a North Carolina

| 1 | | limited liability company. An integration team will work out the details of the |
|----|----|--|
| 2 | | combined company's structure and their work may result in additional |
| 3 | | reorganizations. |
| 4 | Q. | PLEASE DESCRIBE DUKE ENERGY'S PHILOSOPHY REGARDING |
| 5 | | ISSUES OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE. |
| 6 | A. | Duke Energy has a tradition of social responsibility stretching back to its founding |
| 7 | | over a century ago. Duke Power's founder, James Buchanan Duke, explicitly |
| 8 | | envisioned it as a vehicle for providing service to a struggling region of the |
| 9 | | country, and reinvesting the resulting earnings into charitable causes through the |
| 10 | | then-affiliated Duke Endowment. This tradition continues today as we strive to |
| 11 | | serve our customers, employees, investors, business partners and suppliers |
| 12 | | ethically and honestly. Duke Energy's Charter incorporates our business purpose, |
| 13 | | objectives, values and success measures. Our Charter provides that in conducting |
| 14 | | our business, we value: |
| 15 | | • Stewardship, |
| 16 | | • Integrity, |
| 17 | | • Respect for the Individual, |
| 18 | | High Performance, |
| 19 | | Win-Win Relationships and |
| 20 | | • Initiative. |
| 21 | | Duke Energy's Code of Business Ethics is another core document of our |
| 22 | | company, outlining the policies and procedures we must all know and follow. |
| 23 | | The Code applies to all employees of Duke Energy, its subsidiaries and affiliates. |

Duke Energy requires all employees to complete annual training on the Code and provides the EthicsLine, a worldwide reporting system through which employees can anonymously report suspected unethical or improper conduct or ask questions to resolve ethical dilemmas within the organization without fear of retribution. The Corporate Compliance Committee implements and supervises the compliance program throughout the company. Corporate responsibility falls on the shoulders of every employee, but it begins with strong governance and ultimate accountability at the highest level of management.

A.

III. THE MERGER

9 Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES THAT LED DUKE 10 ENERGY TO PURSUE A MERGER WITH CINERGY.

We entered into the Plan of Merger to build a stronger combined company. The merger will create a stronger platform for our regulated and unregulated businesses by increasing the scale and scope of both. Our increased size will position us to take advantage of further consolidation opportunities in both the utility and merchant energy business. After the combination, New Duke Energy's electric and gas businesses each would be large enough to stand alone - - giving us the flexibility to separate them in the future if we determine that such a move would create more value. However, any such separation would not include the separation of The Cincinnati Gas & Electric Company's ("CG&E") and ULH&P's utility gas business from its electric business.

The transaction will add value to New Duke Energy with higher earnings after the first full year of operation. The benefits will increase further in future

| years through cost efficiencies. These efficiencies and management commitment |
|--|
| to capture them assure that the combined company will be able to offer attractive |
| energy prices to its retail customers, competitive prices and services in wholesale |
| businesses and sustainable returns to attract the capital needed to assure reliability |
| and expand. |

A.

Cinergy offered the best strategic fit of assets and skills to meet our strategic objectives. In addition, Cinergy's management is experienced, highly capable and shares a vision of the future of the energy business that is very similar to Duke Energy's.

Q. DESCRIBE, GENERALLY, THE EFFECTS OF A MERGER BETWEEN DUKE ENERGY AND CINERGY.

The combination of Duke Energy and Cinergy creates a larger, more stable company. The merger will also add diversity of service areas, climates, economic and competitive conditions to reduce risk to the regulated operations as a whole from exposure to local conditions. Once combined, New Duke Energy will operate one of the five largest electric businesses in the United States on a standalone basis, and combined with the gas operations will be one of the largest diversified utility and gas operations in North America.

As of close of the stock market on May 6, 2005, the New Duke Energy would have had market capitalization of \$36 billion, and as of December 31, 2004, total assets of \$70.5 billion, revenues of \$27.2 billion and net income of \$1.9 billion. The merger will increase financial flexibility. In particular, the significant synergies created by the merger will lower the overall cost structure of

| the combined company. These cost savings should permit lower future rates than |
|---|
| would otherwise have been necessary on a stand-alone basis for either of the two |
| companies. In summary, the combination of Duke Energy and Cinergy, and the |
| synergies that result, will create a new, diversified financially strong company |
| with increased financial flexibility, efficiencies, productivity and revenue, and |
| lower costs. |

A.

Q. DOES THE NEW DUKE ENERGY HAVE THE FINANCIAL, TECHNICAL AND MANAGERIAL ABILITY TO OWN AND OPERATE CINERGY'S UTILITY OPERATIONS?

Absolutely. Duke Energy is a recognized leader in the energy business. As I discussed before, the post-merger New Duke Energy will be a larger, diversified, and financially stronger company. The significant synergies created by the merger include reduced costs resulting from the elimination of duplicative spending and overlapping functions, increased purchasing power, the avoidance of planned expenditures, and the consolidation of certain operations. The combination of these synergies translates into increased productivity and lower costs, which creates a financially strong organization.

While we have embraced a century of change in customer needs, new technologies and market opportunities, our focus on operational excellence, safety, environmental stewardship and customer and community service, wherever we do business, has not wavered. This commitment, which we know Cinergy shares, will continue to guide our merged company. Duke Power consistently raises the industry bar for efficiency and safety. Duke Power has

| 1 | earned the Edison Award, the electric industry's most prestigious honor three |
|---|--|
| 2 | times more than any other utility. By combining Duke Power's operational |
| 3 | and management strength with the Cinergy utilities' similar strong leadership, the |
| 4 | New Duke Energy will have diverse talent and experience to effectively operate |
| 5 | the Cinergy utility operations. |
| | |

6 Q. HOW WILL THE MERGER AFFECT THE LOCATION OF THE 7 HEADOUARTERS OF CINERGY'S OPERATING COMPANIES?

A.

A. As I mentioned previously, the merger will not affect the headquarters for the local utility operating companies. Each will remain in its current location. Cinergy's, ULH&P's and CG&E's headquarters will remain in Cincinnati, Ohio, while the corporate headquarters for PSI Energy, Inc. will remain in Plainfield, Indiana. We anticipate that many of the same employees will remain in their current locations, particularly those who work directly with customers. Some of the overlapping corporate functions may relocate to Charlotte, but ULH&P customers should have the same access to their local utility as they enjoy today.

16 Q. TO WHAT DEGREE ARE MERGER SAVINGS A RESULT OF THE 17 ELIMINATION OF JOBS?

While some workforce reductions are anticipated in the long term, the total reduction is expected to be about 1,500 positions, or 5% of the combined workforces of Duke Energy and Cinergy. Many of the workforce reductions will likely result from retirements, attrition and other efforts designed to minimize impacts upon the employees of both companies.

| 1 | Q. | WHERE, SPECIFICALLY, WITHIN THE CORPORATIONS DO YOU |
|----|----|---|
| 2 | | FORESEE REDUCTIONS IN FORCE? |
| 3 | A. | No decisions have been made about any specific areas to be consolidated, but |
| 4 | | reductions will likely be spread over corporate, shared services, utility back office |
| 5 | | and non-regulated merchant operations. In addition to any short-term job losses, |
| 6 | | new career and long-term employment opportunities will also be created by the |
| 7 | | strengthened New Duke Energy after the merger. |
| | | IV. <u>OPERATIONS</u> |
| | | A. <u>SYSTEM RELIABILITY</u> |
| 8 | Q. | WHAT PROGRAMS DOES DUKE ENERGY'S REGULATED ELECTRIC |
| 9 | | UTILITY, DUKE POWER, HAVE IN PLACE TO ENSURE SYSTEM |
| 10 | | RELIABILITY? |
| 11 | A. | First, Duke Power's diverse generating fleet continues to excel in reliability and |
| 12 | | efficiency. Our maintenance, planning and operational systems consistently allow |
| 13 | | Duke Power to run one of the most efficient and reliable generation systems in the |
| 14 | | United States. |
| 15 | | Duke Power monitors the adequacy and reliability of its transmission |
| 16 | | system and its interconnections through analysis of internal transmission models |
| 17 | | and participation in regional reliability groups. Corrective actions are planned |
| 18 | | and implemented in advance to ensure continued cost-effective high quality |
| 19 | | electric service is provided. Duke Power's screening methods for its internal |

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models comply with Southeastern Electric Reliability Council policy and North

American Electric Reliability Council Planning Standards. Duke Power also

| 1 | | participates in a number of regional reliability groups for coordination of analysis |
|----|----|--|
| 2 | | of regional, sub-regional and inter-control area transfer capability and |
| 3 | | interconnection reliability. |
| 4 | Q. | COULD YOU DEMONSTRATE THE RESULTS OF SUCH PROGRAMS |
| 5 | | ON DUKE POWER'S SYSTEM RELIABILITY? |
| 6 | A. | In 2004, our Catawba Nuclear Station set a new company reliability record, |
| 7 | | operating for 531 continuous days, and was recognized by the Nuclear Regulatory |
| 8 | | Commission for safe operations. Also in 2004, Electric Light & Power magazine |
| 9 | | named our Marshall Steam Station the most efficient coal-fired station in the |
| 10 | | United States. |
| 11 | | In each of the five years 2000 through 2004, the TQS Key Accounts |
| 12 | | National Benchmark study, a nationally-recognized customer satisfaction study of |
| 13 | | large industrial and institutional customers, rated Duke Power among the top 10 |
| 14 | | utilities in the country in customer satisfaction with Power Quality and Power |
| 15 | | Reliability. In each of these five years, at least 80% of Duke Power's Key |
| 16 | | Accounts indicated they were highly satisfied with the performance in these |
| 17 | | categories. In the 2005 SGS Transmission Reliability Benchmarking Study, for |
| 18 | | the five years 2000 through 2004, Duke Power's transmission system ranked in |
| 19 | | the first quartile nationally for average line outage frequency in the bulk power |
| 20 | | (230-500kV) and load serving (23-161kV) voltage classes. |
| 21 | | These recognitions for reliable operation of our generation, transmission |
| 22 | | and distribution systems are important measures of Duke Power's reliability. |

Q. WHAT MORE IS DUKE POWER DOING TO MAINTAIN AND, WHEN POSSIBLE, IMPROVE UPON THAT RECORD?

A.

- A. We operate one of the most diverse, efficient and reliable generating systems in the United States, but we are always working internally and externally through industry benchmarking groups and other organizations to improve upon our generation record. We also continually monitor and analyze our transmission and distribution systems to determine where new investments, technological advancements and operational efficiencies can be employed to improve our system reliability. Duke Power's internal analyses, participation in industry reliability councils, and process for managing transmission system projects contribute to continued system security and reliable operation.
- 12 Q. PLEASE DISCUSS THE RELIABILITY HISTORY OF UNION GAS,
 13 DUKE ENERGY'S LOCAL DISTRIBUTION COMPANY IN ONTARIO,
 14 CANADA.
 - Union Gas is Canada's second largest natural gas utility and distributes natural gas to some 1.2 million residential, commercial and industrial customers in Ontario. Union Gas has historically maintained a high level of reliability performance. Pertinent legislative requirements are targeted for 100% compliance and a set of performance measures is used to periodically measure and monitor performance levels in all related areas, including corrosion surveys, leakage surveys, leak repairs, fault repairs, conducting all related inspections in a timely fashion, and proactively performing maintenance activities. The company also participates in benchmarking studies to compare its reliability performance

| 1 | results with the rest of the North American gas industry. For example, in 2004 |
|---|--|
| 2 | and 2005, system reliability benchmark studies conducted by the American Gas |
| 3 | Association ("AGA") confirmed the high reliability performance standing of |
| 4 | Union Gas, with top quartile rankings in emergency response and employee |
| 5 | safety. |

6 Q. WILL THE MERGER AFFECT CINERGY'S SYSTEM RELIABILITY,

7 AND IF SO, IN WHAT WAYS?

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- We expect Cinergy's strong history of system reliability to continue. As a result of the merger, the Cinergy Operating Companies becoming part of the new Duke Energy will have greater resources and even greater depth of experience to continue the strong system reliability expected by customers of Duke Power, CG&E, PSI, ULH&P and Union Gas. This merger will allow the New Duke Energy utility operating companies to develop "best practices" drawing on the experience of the former Cinergy operating companies, Duke Power and Union Gas. Further, the broader employee base located in a larger geographic area will provide all retail customers access to greater resources in the event of severe weather or other uncontrollable outages or emergencies.
- Q. WHAT IMPACT WILL THE MERGER HAVE ON THE CINERGY
 OPERATING COMPANIES' PARTICIPATION IN THE MIDWEST
 INDEPENDENT TRANSMISSION SYSTEM OPERATOR, INC.
 ("MIDWEST ISO")?
- A. None. Duke Energy believes that regional solutions to transmission issues are preferable, and that the Cinergy operating companies' decision to participate in

Midwest ISO is appropriate for the environments in their states of operation.

Duke Power has also recently filed a plan with FERC to establish an Independent Entity and an Independent Monitor to provide additional transparency to the system's administration. Duke Power has retained Midwest ISO to perform the role of Independent Entity. While Duke Power is not joining Midwest ISO, we expect that Midwest ISO will assume responsibility for a number of core transmission functions.

A.

B. CUSTOMER SERVICE

Q. CAN YOU PROVIDE SPECIFIC EXAMPLES IN WHICH DUKE POWER HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED FOR EXEMPLARY CUSTOMER SERVICE?

Yes. Duke Power is committed to providing superior value to our customers and has received numerous awards and honors for its customer service. Some of our most recent awards include the following: In J.D. Power and Associates' 2005 Business Customer Satisfaction Index, Duke Power ranked No. 4 out of 53 participating utilities across the country and second out of all southern region utilities. In J.D. Power and Associates' 2005 Residential Customer Satisfaction Index, Duke Power ranked 1st out of all southern region utilities, and 8th out of 78 utilities nationally. In the 2005 Key Account National Benchmark Survey – Overall Satisfaction conducted by TQS Research, Inc., Duke Power ranked 3rd nationally. In 2005, J.D. Power and Associates certified Duke Power's customer call center for call service excellence, joining Cinergy as the only two energy company call centers to receive this designation. Duke Power also received the 2004 Customer Service Project of the Year Award from Electric Light and Power

magazine and Chartwell, Inc. for enhancements we made to our automated phone systems, by using customer focus groups and adding an automated line for Spanish-speaking customers.

Q. CAN YOU PROVIDE EXAMPLES OF UNION GAS' PROGRAMS AND RECOGNITION FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE?

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A.

Yes. Union Gas defines its success by delivering a high level of customer service Union Gas uses the "balanced expressed in key service quality metrics. scorecard" approach to measure, improve and maintain a high level of customer service at optimum costs. Each year, a customer service quality matrix along with corresponding improvement performance targets is developed. The company also participates in benchmarking studies on an on-going basis, including the annual AGA benchmarking study to compare its customer service and productivity performance with rest of the North American gas industry. In the 2005 AGA benchmarking study of 85 gas and/or electric companies, Union Gas ranked as a top quartile performing company with regard to several service quality indicators including answer time, dispatch time, travel time, total response time and percentage of emergency responses within a specified length of time. In addition, Union Gas was recognized in 2004 as an Accredited Meter Verifier by Measurement Canada, the regulatory body for Canada that sets the rules of the marketplace with respect to trade measurement and ensures that the rules are uniformly implemented. This accreditation recognizes Union Gas' commitment to quality processes, accurate measurement and customer satisfaction.

1 Q. HOW WILL THE MERGER IMPACT UPON CINERGY'S OPERATING

UTILITIES' CUSTOMER SERVICE?

3 A. We certainly expect that Cinergy's customers will continue to receive the level of customer service they have come to expect. The local headquarters for each

5 utility will remain unchanged by the merger and customers will still have the local

presence of, and access to, their electric and/or gas utility. And by the sharing of

best practices among the separate companies, coming together, we expect to

improve our provision of customer service both within the existing Duke Power

franchised area as well as within the existing Cinergy operating companies'

10 service territories.

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V. <u>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</u>

- 11 Q. PLEASE COMMENT UPON DUKE POWER'S COMMITMENT TO
- 12 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WITHIN AREAS IN WHICH IT
- 13 **PROVIDES SERVICE.**
- 14 A. Duke Power is committed to economic development and has played a proud role
- in the development of North Carolina and South Carolina over the past century.
- The vision of Duke Power's founder, James Buchanan Duke, was one of
- economic development, spurred by an electric system that would power textile
- mills and transform the agrarian economy by driving the economic growth of the
- 19 Piedmont region of the Carolinas.
- Today, the presence of Duke Power's 10,000 employees in the
- communities we serve provides the foundation for our economic development
- strategy. We are responding to the changes in the automation of manufacturing

and the churn of the global economy. We are finding opportunities to recalibrate our economic development approach; to revamp funding and recruitment policies; to forge new alliances; and to advance technology and innovation. While the economic landscape has changed significantly over the past century, Duke Power's vision has not.

Since 1996, one of North Carolina's chief economic development incentive tools has been the industry tax credits established by the William S. Lee Act, named for Duke Power's former CEO and Chairman. This tribute acknowledges Bill Lee and Duke Power's prominent commitment to economic development.

Duke Power has many current economic development initiatives. Let me list a few. In 2004, Duke Power announced a profit-sharing approach that shares profits from its short-term, interruptible wholesale sales at market-based rates in the Carolinas. In North Carolina, these profits are contributed to public assistance heating and cooling programs, to provide worker retraining through Duke Power's Community and Technical College Fund and to reduce industrial customers' rates. In South Carolina, Duke Power established AdvanceSC, a limited liability company with an independent board of directors, to disburse these profits through grants for public assistance heating and cooling programs, education programs for economic development, economic development funding and manufacturing competitiveness funding.

Since 1994, Duke Power has offered innovative economic development rates to encourage businesses to locate or expand operations in North Carolina

| and South Carolina. When our region's manufacturing base began to decline, |
|--|
| particularly in the textile and furniture industries, Duke Power responded in 2002 |
| by offering economic redevelopment rates to promote use of unoccupied |
| industrial facilities. |

Another recent example of Duke Power's commitment to economic development is our collaboration with the departments of commerce from both Carolinas to build a world-class GIS-based website that will give site selection consultants, industrial companies and economic developers convenient access to comprehensive information about industrial properties, local communities, workforce and infrastructure in the Carolinas.

Duke Power will continue to grow our partnerships with local, regional and statewide government economic development organizations, the private sector and academic circles to influence economic development policy and benefit the communities we serve. In addition, we believe that the combination of our competitive rates and record of superior reliability give us a strategic advantage and valuable economic development tool.

Q. WILL THE MERGER AFFECT DUKE ENERGY'S COMMITMENT TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN ANY WAY, AND IF SO, HOW?

- Duke Energy is a leader and key partner in the communities where we work and serve, as is Cinergy. The merger will not change this imperative.
- Q. WHAT DO YOU ANTICIPATE THE MERGER BETWEEN DUKE
 ENERGY AND CINERGY TO MEAN IN TERMS OF ECONOMIC
 DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES WITHIN THE STATE OF KENTUCKY?

We expect to maintain the commitment to economic development initiatives within Kentucky. As I discussed before, Duke Power has increased its commitment to economic development over the years and has seen great results with new industry locating in our service areas and existing customers expanding their operations. The economic development leadership and experience of Duke Power, CG&E, PSI, ULH&P and Union Gas combined with more competitive rates than otherwise would have been possible absent the cost savings from the merger should enable additional economic development opportunities in the areas served by New Duke Energy.

A.

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VI. CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP / RESPONSIBILITY

A. CHARITABLE WORKS

10 Q. PLEASE BRIEFLY DESCRIBE DUKE'S CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES 11 OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS.

As I have discussed previously, Duke Energy is committed to the communities where we live and conduct business. Our financial contributions to selected charitable organizations are at the core of our commitment. The Duke Energy Foundation is a non-profit organization funded by shareholders and provides funding where our company sees the greatest need, within three focus areas: educational attainment, community vitality and competitive workforce. In 2004, the total Foundation giving was \$13.5 million. The Foundation funds two types of volunteer grants to employees and retiree chapters to encourage volunteerism. The Community Improvement Grant provides up to \$1,000 to purchase supplies and materials for the performance of a specific, one-time, hands-on project. A

| Leadership Grant of \$1,000 is paid to a charitable organization on behalf of an |
|--|
| eligible Duke Energy employee or retiree for outstanding volunteer efforts and |
| dedication to service. |

Duke Energy employees, retirees and the Duke Energy Foundation pledged \$5.5 million to 380 United Way organizations in the United States and Canada. Since 1998, Duke Energy has sponsored our Global Service Event to encourage and highlight employee and retiree volunteerism. In 2004, the Global Service Event was lengthened from the traditional 30 days to 100 days to celebrate our 100th anniversary. The results were monumental: more than 9,000 employees gave over 27,000 volunteer hours to volunteer projects and charitable organizations. The Duke Energy Foundation also awarded \$145,000 in volunteer grants to charitable organizations selected by employees and retirees as part of the Global Service Event.

15 Q. HOW WILL THE MERGER AFFECT DUKE AND CINERGY'S 16 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES?

A. Duke Energy and Cinergy have similar corporate philosophies regarding involvement in our communities and charitable giving. The merger will not diminish the combined company's leadership role. We fully expect the tradition of charitable giving and civic leadership to continue in all communities where Duke Energy conducts business.

B. <u>ENVIRONMENTAL</u>

22 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES YOU BELIEVE

1 ARE OF MAJOR IMPORT TO DUKE ENERGY, AND ALSO EXPLAIN 2 HOW DUKE ENERGY IS ADDRESSING THOSE ISSUES.

A.

The scope, scale and diversity of its operations involve Duke Energy in most environmental issues. However, global climate change is one of the pressing issues of our time. Concern that greenhouse gases from human activities may be influencing changes in the earth's climate system has resulted in a variety of local, state and regional responses, as well as increased policy debate at the national level. Duke Energy shares this concern.

We endorse a transition to a lower-carbon-intensive economy, promoting a federal economy-wide approach — such as through a carbon tax — and are taking a leadership role to engage stakeholders and craft a national policy consistent with our principles. This commitment is indicative of the integral part environment, health and safety considerations play in all of our decisions.

Duke Power was one of the first utilities in the nation to launch an environmental and water quality department in 1923, and stewardship of the environment remains one of Duke Energy's guiding principles. Duke Energy has long been known for its efficient power plant operations and diverse fuel mix.

Duke Energy strongly supported North Carolina's 2002 clean air legislation, which is becoming a model for other states pursuing stricter emissions standards. In compliance with that plan and the federal Clean Air Act, Duke Power is investing approximately \$1.5 billion over the next several years to reduce emissions at its coal-fired plants. In addition, Duke Power has invested \$653 million to comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's NO_x SIP

| (State Implementation | Plan) Call rule. | Compared to | 2000 levels, | Duke Power |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| will reduce its annual | NO _x emissions 6 | 66% by 2009, | and annual S | O ₂ emissions |
| 65% by 2013. | | | | |

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New Duke Energy will be proactive in shaping climate change policy and continue to strive to contribute to the well-being of our communities and environment.

Q. IN WHAT WAYS HAS DUKE ENERGY BEEN RECOGNIZED FOR ITS ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND SAFETY FOCUS?

We work closely with agencies and local groups to preserve cultural and natural resources, whether building new plants, pipelines or electric wires, managing real estate or siting telecommunications facilities. We support programs that promote environmental education and also foster a culture in which every employee at every level accepts responsibility and accountability for working safely. As a result, we have been recognized by these partners and other organizations over the Some of the recent highlights include: 2005 Safety years for our efforts. Achievement Award - American Gas Association (the fifth time that DEGT has earned AGA's top safety award); 2005 Corporate Stewardship Award - South Carolina Department of Archives and History (for Crescent Resources' accomplishments in archaeology and historic preservation); 2005 Environmental Achievement Award - City of Calgary (for partnering with the Calgary Board of Education and the City of Calgary Parks to launch the Duke Energy Urban Ecology Program); 2004 Coastal America Partnership Award- Coastal America (for DEGT's work to restore marshlands and construct trail system around the

historic San Jacinto battleground near Houston); 2004 Safety Awards for Pipeline Operations – Canadian Energy Pipeline Association (for DEGT's lowest industry recordable injury rate in 2003); 2004 Eloy Chaves Medal – Association of Brazilian Concessionaires of Electrical Energy (DEI Brazil is the first company to receive this safety award for three consecutive years); and 2003 Outstanding Stewardship of America's Rivers – National Hydropower Association (for Duke Energy's work to protect trout streams and tributaries in North and South Carolina).

VII. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

- 9 O. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR TESTIMONY.
- The New Duke Energy will have the technological, managerial, and financial 10 A. ability to own and operate ULH&P. Cinergy and Duke Energy share common 11 values and commitments to corporate governance, reliability and safety, customer 12 service, economic development, charitable activities, and environmental 13 stewardship. This merger will result in a larger, stronger company with the same 14 core values that have served Duke Energy and Cinergy well. We expect all of our 15 stakeholders to benefit from the merger, and we are committed to making it a 16 17 success.
- Q. WERE ATTACHMENTS RJO-1 AND RJO-2 PREPARED BY YOU OR
 UNDER YOUR SUPERVISION?
- 20 A. Yes, they were.
- 21 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY?
- 22 A. Yes.

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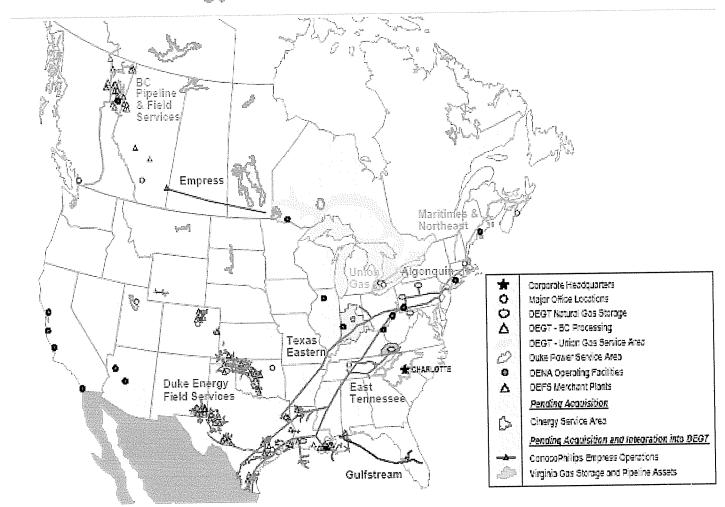
VERIFICATION

| State of North Carolina County of Mecklenburg |)) | SS: |
|--|-------------------|--|
| is Group Vice President, Pu | ublic an | Osborne, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he ad Regulatory Policy, for Duke Energy Corporation, foregoing testimony are true and correct to the best of ef. |
| Subscribed and swor day of | n to bef 2005. | Richard J. Osborne, Affiant Fore me by Richard J. Asbard on this 15 to Some me by August M. Faully NOTARY PUBLIC |

My Commission Expires: 4/13/08



Duke Energy's North American Assets



Duke Power Generating Stations

| Plant | Location | MW | Fuel type | Yr. commercial |
|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| FOSSIL | | | | |
| Allen Steam Station | Belmont, NC | 1145 MW | Low sulfur coal | Units 1,2 – 1957 U3 – 1959 U4 – 1960 U5 - 1961 |
| Belews Creek | Belews Creek, NC | 2270 MW | Low sulfur coal | U1 – 1974 U2 - 1975 |
| Buck | Spencer, NC | 369 MW | Low sulfur coal | U3 – 1941 U4 - 1942 U5/6 - 1953 |
| Cliffside | Cliffside, NC | 760 MW | Low sulfur coal | U1,2 – 1940 U3,4 - 1948 U5 - 1972 |
| Dan River | Eden, NC | 276 MW | Low sulfur coal | U1 – 1949 U2 – 1950 U3 - 1955 |
| Lee | Williamston, SC | 370 MW | Low sulfur coal | U1,2 – 1951 U3 - 1958 |
| Marshall | Terrell, NC | 2110 MW | Low sulfur coal | U1 – 1965 U2 – 1966 U3 – 1969 U4 - 1970 |
| Riverbend | Mt. Holly, NC | 454 MW | Low sulfur coal | U1,2 – 1952 U3,4 - 1954 |
| COMBUSTION TURBINE | | | | |
| Lincoln | Lowesville, NC | 1267.2 MW | Fuel oil/gas | 1995 |
| Mill Creek | Cherokee Co., | 595.4 MW | Fuel oil/gas | 2003 |
| HYDRO | | | | |
| Bad Creek | Salem, SC | 1360 MW (pumped storage) | Water | 1991 |
| Bear Creek | Tuckasegee, NC | 9.45 MW | Water | 1954 |
| Bridgewater | Morganton, NC | 23 MW | Water | 1919 |
| Bryson | Swain county, NC | .98 MW | Water | 1925 |

| Buzzard Roost | Chapells, SC | 7 MW | Water | 1940 |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------|-----------|------------------------|
| (leased – | | | | |
| expires in | | | | |
| 2006) | | | | |
| Plant | Location | MW | Fuel type | Yr. commercial |
| Cedar Cliff | Tuckasegee, NC | 6.375 MW | Water | 1952 |
| Cedar Creek | Great Falls, NC | 43 MW | Water | 1926 |
| Cowans Ford | Stanley, NC | 325 MW | Water | 1963 |
| Dearborn | Great Falls, SC | 42 MW | Water | 1923 |
| Dillsboro | Dillsboro, NC | .22 MW | Water | 1958 |
| Fishing Creek | Great Falls, SC | 49 MW | Water | 1916 |
| Franklin | Franklin, NC | 1.04 MW | Water | 1925 |
| Gaston Shoals | Blacksburg, SC | 4.62 MW | Water | 1908 |
| Great Falls | Great Falls, SC | 24 MW | Water | 1907 |
| Jocassee | Pickens Co. SC | 680 MW | Water | 1973 |
| 30003300 | Tiokono co. co | (pumped | | |
| | | storage) | | |
| Keowee | Pickens Co, SC | 152 MW | Water | 1971 |
| Lookout Shoals | Iredell Co., NC | 28 MW | Water | 1915 |
| Mission | Clay Co., NC | 1.8 MW | Water | 1924 |
| Mountain Island | Mt. Holly, NC | 58 MW | Water | 1923 |
| | Macon Co., NC | 50 MW | Water | 1942 |
| Nantahala | | 9.55 MW | Water | 1910 |
| 99 Islands | Cherokee Co., NC | | | |
| Oxford | Conover, NC | 40 MW | Water | 1928 |
| Queens Creek | Swain Co., NC | 1.44 MW | Water | 1949 |
| Rhodhiss | Rhodhiss, NC | 30 MW | Water | 1925 |
| Rocky Creek | Fairfield Co., NC | 27 MW | Water | 1909 |
| Tennessee Creek | Jackson Co., NC | 9.8 MW | Water | 1955 |
| Thorpe | Jackson Co, NC | 19.7 MW | Water | 1941 |
| Tuckasegee | Tuckasegee, NC | 2.5 MW | Water | 1950 |
| Tuxedo | Saluda, NC | 6.4 MW | Water | 1920 |
| Wateree | Ridgeway, SC | 85 MW | Water | 1919 |
| Wylie | York Co., SC | 72 MW | Water | 1904 – rebuilt in 1925 |
| NUCLEAR | | | | |
| Catawba | York, SC | 2258 MW | Uranium | U1 – 1985 |
| Jalawba | | | | U2 – 1986 |
| McGuire | Huntersville, | 2200 MW | Uranium | U1 – 1981 |
| IVICOUNG | NC | | | U2 - 1984 |
| Oconee | Seneca, SC | 2538 MW | Uranium | U1 – 1973 |
| Conoc | 3011000, 00 | | | U2/U3 - 1974 |

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

| In the Matter of: | | |
|--|-----------|---------------------|
| Joint Application of Duke Energy Corporation, Duke Energy Holding Corp., Deer Acquisition Corp., Cougar Acquisition Corp., Cinergy Corp., The Cincinnati Gas & Electric Company, and The Union Light, Heat and Power Company for Approval of a Transfer and Acquisition of Control |))))) | Case No. 2005-00228 |
| DIRECT TESTIMONY O | F | |
| THOMAS J. FLAHERTY | Y | |
| ON BEHALF OF | | |
| JOINT APPLICANTS | | |

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APPENDIX

ATTACHMENT TJF-1 – Summary of Regulated Utility Experience

ATTACHMENT TJF-2 – Overall Cost Savings

ATTACHMENT TJF-3 – Costs to Achieve Elements

I. INTRODUCTION AND QUALIFICATIONS

| 1 | Ω | PLEASE STATE | YOUR NAME | AND BY V | VHOM YOU | ARE EMPL | OYED. |
|---|---|--------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-------|
|---|---|--------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-------|

- My name is Thomas J. Flaherty, and I am a Senior Vice President in the Energy and 2 A. Utilities practice of Booz Allen Hamilton. My business address is 901 Main St., Suite 3 4 6500, Dallas, Texas 75202.
- **SUMMARIZE YOUR ACADEMIC** AND **BRIEFLY** 5 Q. WOULD YOU PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND?

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A.

I graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a B.B.A. degree in Accounting and immediately joined Touche Ross & Co., where I began my career as a management consultant. Subsequently, I worked for Deloitte & Touche (formed by the merger of Touche Ross and Deloitte, Haskins & Sells in 1989) for more than 30 years until joining Booz Allen Hamilton ("Booz Allen") as a Senior Vice President. Over the course of my consulting career, I have specialized in the public utility industry and have performed a variety of assignments.

I have assisted managements from a number of electric and/or gas utilities in the identification, evaluation and integration of acquisitions, including: screening analysis; review of corporate restructuring alternatives; assessment of merger-related cost reduction opportunities; development of regulatory strategies; planning and execution of merger integration; and, assignment and allocation of costs and benefits related to mergers and acquisitions. In addition to my involvement in merger and acquisition consulting, I have participated in numerous other utility consulting

| 1 | | engagements in the areas of corporate growth, diversification, restructuring |
|----------------------------------|----|--|
| 2 | | organizational analysis, business process reengineering, benchmarking, strategic |
| 3 | | planning, strategic marketing, litigation assistance, economic feasibility studies |
| 4 | | regulatory planning and analysis, and financial analysis. |
| 5 | | I also have conducted or directed similar assignments for a variety of |
| 6 | | industries, including construction, retailing, publishing, health care, real estate and |
| 7 | | manufacturing, in addition to utilities. Attachment TJF-1 to this testimony details my |
| 8 | | previous experience with regulated utilities. |
| 9 | Q. | PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR EXPERIENCE IN UTILITY MERGERS AND |
| | | |
| 10 | | ACQUISITIONS. |
| 10 11 | A. | ACQUISITIONS. I have evaluated more than 300 actual, proposed or potential transactions involving |
| | A. | |
| 11 | A. | I have evaluated more than 300 actual, proposed or potential transactions involving |
| 11 12 | A. | I have evaluated more than 300 actual, proposed or potential transactions involving electric, electric and gas combination, gas, or water utilities. I have experience |
| 11 12 13 | A. | I have evaluated more than 300 actual, proposed or potential transactions involving electric, electric and gas combination, gas, or water utilities. I have experience working for both buyers and sellers and have assisted client managements in the |
| 11 12 13 14 | Α. | I have evaluated more than 300 actual, proposed or potential transactions involving electric, electric and gas combination, gas, or water utilities. I have experience working for both buyers and sellers and have assisted client managements in the assessment of a broad range of transactional issues, including the following: |
| 11 12 13 14 | Α. | I have evaluated more than 300 actual, proposed or potential transactions involving electric, electric and gas combination, gas, or water utilities. I have experience working for both buyers and sellers and have assisted client managements in the assessment of a broad range of transactional issues, including the following: • Target analysis • Financial analysis |
| 11 12 13 14 15 16 | A. | I have evaluated more than 300 actual, proposed or potential transactions involving electric, electric and gas combination, gas, or water utilities. I have experience working for both buyers and sellers and have assisted client managements in the assessment of a broad range of transactional issues, including the following: Target analysis Financial analysis Transaction structuring Regulatory strategy |
| 11 12 13 14 15 | A. | I have evaluated more than 300 actual, proposed or potential transactions involving electric, electric and gas combination, gas, or water utilities. I have experience working for both buyers and sellers and have assisted client managements in the assessment of a broad range of transactional issues, including the following: Target analysis Financial analysis Transaction structuring Regulatory strategy |

The publicly announced transactions in which I have been significantly involved, other than the one that is the subject of this proceeding are: Kansas Power & Light and Kansas Gas and Electric, IPALCO Enterprises and PSI Resources, Entergy and Gulf States Utilities, Southern Union and Western Resources (Missouri

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| properties), Washington Water Power and Sierra Pacific Resources, Midwest |
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| Resources and Iowa-Illinois Gas & Electric, Northern States Power Company and |
| Wisconsin Energy Corporation, PECO Energy Company and PPL Resources, Public |
| Service Company of Colorado and Southwestern Public Service Company, Baltimore |
| Gas & Electric and Potomac Electric Power Company, Delmarva Power and Atlantic |
| Energy, WPL Holdings, IES Industries and Interstate Power, Puget Sound Power & |
| Light and Washington Energy, TU Electric and ENSERCH, Western Resources and |
| Kansas City Power & Light, Western Resources and ONEOK, Inc. (Kansas, |
| Oklahoma gas properties), Houston Industries and NORAM Energy, Ohio Edison and |
| Centerior, ENOVA and Pacific Enterprises, Brooklyn Union Gas and Long Island |
| Lighting, Allegheny Energy and DQE, Inc., LG&E Energy and KU Energy, NIPSCO |
| Industries and Bay State Gas, American Electric Power and CSW, BEC Energy and |
| COM Energy, Northern States Power and New Century Energies, Dynegy and |
| Illinova, DTE Energy and MCN Energy, ConEdison and Northeast Utilities, PECO |
| Energy and Unicom, AGL Resources and Virginia Natural Gas, Energy East and |
| RGE Energy, FPL Group and Entergy, PNM Resources and TNM Enterprises, and |
| Exelon and PSEG Enterprises. |

18 Q. DO YOU HOLD ANY PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS?

19 A. Yes. I am a Certified Management Consultant and a member of the Institute of
20 Management Consultants.

II. PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY

21 Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

I have been asked to appear for Joint Applicants, Cinergy Corp. ("Cinergy"), The Cincinnati Gas & Electric Company, The Union Light Heat & Power Company, Cougar Acquisition Corp., Deer Acquisition Corp., Duke Energy Holding Corp., and Duke Energy Corporation ("Duke Energy") to sponsor the costs and benefit analysis identifying the merger-related synergies from the announced combination of Duke Energy and Cinergy ("the Companies"). Booz Allen assisted the managements of both Companies in the identification and quantification of potential cost savings resulting from the proposed merger of the companies.

In this testimony I: (1) describe the categories of merger-related cost savings that are believed available from the merger of the Companies; (2) provide the basis for quantification of estimated merger-related cost savings; (3) explain the basis for and importance of costs-to-achieve on the identified savings; (4) describe the process by which such identified cost savings categories and estimated merger-related cost savings were derived by the Companies, and; (5) compare the level of merger-related cost savings identified in this merger with other transactions with which I am familiar.

Q. HAVE YOU INCLUDED ANY ATTACHMENTS TO YOUR TESTIMONY?

Yes. Attachment TJF-1 is a summary of my experience with regulated utilities, while Attachment TJF-2 provides a five-year summary of potential merger cost savings, and Attachment TJF-3 provides a detailed breakout of costs that may be incurred to achieve the identified merger.

III. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

21 Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR TESTIMONY.

Α.

A.

The combination of the Companies enables the realization of substantial benefits in the form of economies, efficiencies and operating effectiveness across the corporate, shared services, regulated and, certain non-regulated operating areas. These synergies relate to a variety of operational functions and will result in benefits that will accrue to customers now, and in the future. These savings are directly attributable to the merger and would not occur in its absence.

A.

The combination of the Companies is expected to provide the potential for approximately \$2.1 billion in total gross cost savings to be realized across the corporate, shared services, regulated and, non-regulated businesses over the first five years following the close of the merger. This total includes approximately \$780 million in gross cost savings that are directly attributable to the non-regulated business segment, specifically the trading and marketing and competitive generation businesses.

In addition, approximately \$770 million in total corporate, shared services, regulated and, non-regulated costs-to-achieve and other offsets to the identified savings have been estimated associated with the closing of the transaction or the realization of the savings, of which approximately \$61 million relates to the non-regulated segment. These non-regulated cost savings and costs-to-achieve are excluded from further discussion in my testimony as they do not relate to any aspect of the regulated business. The total level of identified cost savings and costs-to-achieve are illustrated in Table 1.

Beyond these non-regulated business savings and related costs, approximately \$183 million in costs-to-achieve associated with corporate or regulated business

change-in-control costs have been removed from consideration for the purposes of this proceeding. These costs-to-achieve elements are not being considered in the determination of the net savings attributable to the regulated business and are not being requested for recognition and recovery against the identified cost savings. In effect, the Companies are increasing the level of cost savings available for the benefit of customers.

With respect to the regulated business segment, the managements of the Companies have identified approximately \$1.3 billion of corporate, shared services and utility-related gross cost savings over the first five years following the close of the transaction. In addition, approximately \$513 million of out-of-pocket costs-to-achieve these savings and \$10 million of cost cutting measures planned or initiated by Cinergy prior to the merger (pre-merger initiatives) have also been identified. These amounts are before any allocations between the regulated and non-regulated business segments and net to approximately \$807 million which is expected to benefit all stakeholders, including customers and shareholders, and result in a stronger, more competitive company. These savings will also be achieved without any adverse impacts to service quality, reliability or safety as the areas identified do not relate to direct operating areas. The net \$807 million in corporate and regulated cost savings is more definitively shown in Attachment TJF-2.

TABLE 1: Total Savings

(\$ in thousands)

Five Year Total Potential Savings Summary

| Potential Areas (\$ in 000s) | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Regulated and Corporate: Staffing Savings | Year 1 \$59,415 | Year 2 \$96,154 | Year 3 \$110,311 | Year 4 \$116,904 | Year 5 \$123,788 | Five-year Total \$506,572 |
| Corporate & Administrative Programs Savings | \$60,594 | \$73,506 | \$77,979 | \$81,269 | \$84,730 | \$378,077 |
| Information Technology Savings | \$16,011 | \$28,889 | \$44,084 | \$58,937 | \$72,396 | \$220,318 |
| Supply Chain Savings | \$26,888 | \$31,824 | \$36,875 | \$42,043 | \$47,330 | \$184,960 |
| Fuel Savings | \$6,992 | \$7,642 | \$8,296 | \$8,489 | \$8,686 | \$40,106 |
| Total Gross Corp/Regulated Savings | \$169,901 | \$238,016 | \$277,546 | \$307,642 | \$336,929 | \$1,330,034 |
| Corp/Regulated Costs-to-Achieve | (\$260,660) | (\$124,229) | (\$58,328) | (\$34,723) | (\$34,744) | (\$512,684) |
| Corp/Regulated Pre-Merger Initiatives | (\$1,912) | (\$1,956) | (\$2,002) | (\$2,048) | (\$2,096) | (\$10,014) |
| Net Corporate and Regulated Savings | (\$92,671) | \$111,830 | \$217,216 | \$270,871 | \$300,089 | \$807,335 |
| Corporate costs excluded from consideration | (\$183,308) | | | | | (\$183,308) |
| Non-Regulated: | | | | | | |
| Non-Regulated Savings | \$127,942 | \$154,014 | \$159,879 | \$165,976 | \$172,313 | \$780,123 |
| Non-Regulated Costs-to-Achieve | (\$48,570) | (\$12,690) | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | (\$61,260) |
| Net Non-Regulated Savings | \$79,372 | \$141,324 | \$159,879 | \$165,976 | \$172,313 | \$718,863 |
| SUMMARY Total Gross Savings | \$297,842 | \$392,030 | \$437,425 | \$473,618 | \$509,242 | \$2,110,157 |
| Total Costs-to-Achieve / Pre-Merger Initiative | (\$494,450) | (\$138,876) | (\$60,330) | (\$36,772) | (\$36,840) | (\$767,267) |
| Total Net Savings | (\$196,608) | \$253,154 | \$377,095 | \$436,847 | \$472,403 | \$1,342,890 |

From a customer perspective in particular, the cost savings identified above from the merger of the Companies, once appropriately allocated to the regulated business, are anticipated to permit lower rates than otherwise would have been necessary on a stand-alone basis for either of the two Companies.

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The estimated cost savings referenced above reflect only merger-related corporate and regulatory savings. They reflect the consensus of both Companies and were jointly developed by management of the Companies, with the assistance of Booz

Allen. This joint development of merger-related cost savings provided a sound basis for identification and quantification and results in fully-documented and agreed-upon savings. As a result, the process utilized by the Companies was comprehensive and captures all significant sources of merger-related cost savings typically available.

The estimated cost savings reflect the potential creation of cost reduction or cost avoidance opportunities through the ability to consolidate separate, stand-alone operations into a single entity. This consolidation and integration thus may enable duplicative functions and positions to be eliminated; similar corporate activities to be combined, avoided or reduced in scope; external purchases of commodities and services to be standardized, rationalized and aggregated; and certain capital expenditures to be avoided.

Based on my experience in other mergers and on my direct involvement with the identification, evaluation, and quantification efforts related to estimated cost savings in this and other transactions, the process utilized for estimating potential merger-related cost savings was consistent with the process utilized by other companies in previous merger transactions. As a result, I believe the level of merger savings identified by the Companies is reasonably attainable provided that management executes its integration plans in a manner consistent with its intent and how other utilities have pursued similar opportunities.

The identified merger cost savings are also within the broad range of those developed by other companies in other similar situations recognizing the unique characteristics of both companies. The estimated levels are well within the range of

other transactions for staffing reductions and for non-fuel operations and maintenance expense.

Recent utility mergers and acquisitions in other states have produced substantial benefits to customers in the form of operational synergies and cost savings that reduce rates or slow the rate of growth in rates. Benefits to customers, however, will not materialize without costs being incurred and risks being assumed. In particular, out-of-pocket costs are incurred in the ordinary course of business to execute a transaction, comply with the various requirements of third-party agencies, successfully integrate the businesses and, close a transaction. In a number of cases, expenditures are incurred solely for the purposes of fulfilling fiduciary responsibilities, satisfying public agency filing requirements or demonstrating the benefits that are conveyed in the transaction. These costs require up-front expenditure of these out-of-pocket amounts without assurance that a transaction will, in fact, be closed. Other expenditures are incurred to assure that employees are treated equitably and that the business is ready for transparent operations on day-one after the close.

In any merger transaction, shareholders also assume the risk that the merged entity will achieve the strategic, financial, and operational benefits set forth as the rationale for the proposed combination. To the extent these objectives are not attained (e.g., failing to realize cost savings), shareholders suffer from eroded equity value and / or lower returns. It is my opinion and an established regulatory principle that, to compensate for these risks and to reflect the shareholders' willingness to fund the costs necessary to realize potential cost savings, the utility should be provided the opportunity to recover the costs-to-achieve these savings and that the resulting net

| 1 | cost savings should be equitably shared between customers and shareholders. This |
|---|--|
| 2 | principle is borne out in a number of prior transactions where regulatory decisions |
| 3 | have provided for equitable savings sharing after the consideration of related costs-to- |
| 4 | achieve. |

IV. SYNERGIES IDENTIFICATION

- 5 Q. IN GENERAL, HOW ARE SAVINGS CREATED FROM THE COMBINATION OF TWO UTILITIES?
- The combination of two utilities enables the succeeding company to realize substantial benefits in the form of economies, efficiencies and operating effectiveness that would not otherwise be available to either company on a stand-alone basis.

 These synergies relate to a variety of operational functions and potentially will result in benefits that will directly accrue to customers. These potential savings areas are viewed as directly attributable to the merger and would not be attainable in the absence of the merger.
- Q. ARE THERE DIFFERENT TYPES OF COST SAVINGS THAT CAN RESULT FROM THE COMBINATION OF TWO UTILITIES?
- 16 A. Yes. In identifying potential cost savings, only those opportunities that are directly related to the merger were quantified. The distinction between merger and non-merger related savings is highlighted below:

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Created savings - These are savings that are directly related to the completion of a
merger and could not be obtained absent the merger. For example, the reduction
of total cost through the avoidance of duplication or overlap and the ability to
extend resources over a broader base of operating activities would naturally occur
through the consolidation of similar functions. Without the combination, both

1 companies would continue to expend amounts on related activities, and as a 2 result, would incur stand-alone cost levels higher than after consolidation.

Α.

- Enabled savings These savings result from the acceleration or "unlocking" of certain events that could give rise to savings and therefore are considered merger savings. For example, technology differences that exist between companies may provide an opportunity to share technology and achieve productivity improvements more rapidly and more cheaply than would have occurred on a stand-alone basis. For example, one company that has adopted an enterprise resource planning information management approach will likely enjoy more seamless operation and management, lower costs and higher productivity than a company that has individual, customized packaged applications requiring unique support. While the company without the integrated technology environment can obtain such benefits from independent investment, the merger enables an existing technology environment to be more rapidly deployed and costly stand-alone investment and concept feasibility analysis to be avoided.
 - Developed savings Reductions in cost due to management decisions that could
 have been made on a stand-alone basis are unrelated to the merger. A decision to
 restructure or reorganize an organization will result in reduced costs but likely
 would have been achieved without the merger. None of the cost savings
 described in my testimony are in this category.

Q. WHAT TYPES OF SAVINGS HAVE BEEN QUANTIFIED WITH RESPECT TO THE DUKE ENERGY AND CINERGY MERGER?

The quantification effort focused on merger-related savings only, *i.e.*, those savings that would not be attainable but for the combination of the two companies. The savings described in my testimony almost exclusively fall under the "created savings" category described above. Potential areas of benefit, and subsequently the resulting cost savings, are determined to be merger-related if they are not attainable by any

action that management of either company could practically initiate on an independent basis. For example, management of either company could reduce labor costs by eliminating positions as part of undertaking a comprehensive performance improvement program. These reductions, however, would relate solely to that entity's independent operations and would not be related to any merger effects.

Quantified merger-related savings result only from action taken by management in association with the combination of the Companies. For example, the fact that both companies maintain separate investor relations activities provides an opportunity to consolidate these functions and avoid replication. This integration of similar functions and activities would not be possible without the merger of Duke Energy and Cinergy. Thus, the benefits identified are only those believed to be directly attributable to the merger.

Additionally, cost savings or cost avoidances that result from the new size and economic scope of the combined entity are merger-related. For example, routine activities that could not be economically outsourced by either company individually may now be candidates for outsourcing, given the new combined entity's greater volumes. Similarly, other activities that either of the companies now outsource might be performed more cost-effectively internally by the combined entity where volumes now justify specialized resources. The greater size of the combined entity should also enable it to be a more cost-effective purchaser of various products and services. Further, to the extent that the combination of two companies enables the companies to reduce costs by transferring technology or competencies to each other, these benefits are also merger-related if such actions could not have been effectively implemented

| by the companies independently, or | if | such | transfers | enable | operating | costs | to | be |
|--|------|--------|-----------|---------|------------|--------|----|----|
| reduced more rapidly or to a lower lev | el 1 | than o | otherwise | would h | ave been t | he cas | e. | |

A.

Each of the examples described above, as well as other additional cost savings or cost avoidances that are directly attributable to the merger, are considered merger-related synergies. Conversely, cost savings or avoidances that would have occurred even in the absence of the merger are not merger-related and should not be included in a calculation of the savings attributable to the merger.

8 Q. WHAT TYPES OF QUANTIFIED BENEFITS TYPICALLY RESULT FROM 9 THE COMBINATION OF TWO UTILITIES?

- Savings estimates reflect those areas where the total level of costs can be affected by actions of management that are the direct result of the combination of Duke Energy and Cinergy. These savings areas are derived from the operational synergies that are created upon integration of two previously independent operations. These savings areas would typically impact operations in the following ways:
- Cost reduction The total cost of service is reduced as a result of the merger by
 avoiding duplication of the cost input required to achieve the same level of output.
 For example, similar operating functions, such as corporate planning, could now
 be integrated and would require less input to achieve results on a combined basis.
- Cost avoidance The total cost of service is reduced due to the ability to forego certain types of parallel expenditures. For example, redundant expenditures required by both entities (e.g., information systems) could be avoided by selecting one set of development efforts to forgo duplication.
- Revenue enhancement The creation of additional revenue streams by using existing regulated assets to supplement revenue sources could also be a means to

| 1 2 3 4 | | increase benefits for shareholders and customers. These revenue streams would be related directly to utilizing available resources, such as generation assets, in a more attractive manner, <i>i.e.</i> , to produce or increase off-system sales, than could be achieved independently. |
|------------------|----|--|
| 5 | Q. | WHAT SPECIFIC CATEGORIES OF QUANTIFIABLE SAVINGS CAN BE |
| 6 | | EXPECTED TO RESULT FROM A UTILITY MERGER? |
| 7 | A. | Quantifiable savings resulting from a merger typically can be categorized as follows: |
| 8 | | Corporate and Headquarters Staffing |
| 9 | | Utility Support Staffing |
| 10 | | Corporate and Administrative Programs |
| 11 | | Information Technology |
| 12 | | Supply Chain |
| 13 | | • Fuel Supply |
| 14 | | Each of these categories has been identified in this merger and will be described later |
| 15 | | in my testimony. These savings areas above relate to common functions and costs |
| 16 | | within the business and do not directly relate to service performance and areas that |
| 17 | | may affect service quality, reliability or safety. |
| 18 | Q. | WERE COSTS-TO-ACHIEVE ALSO IDENTIFIED IN THE MERGER COST |
| 19 | | SAVINGS ANALYSIS? |
| 20 | A. | Yes. Certain costs must be incurred to facilitate the realization of the identified cost |
| 21 | | savings. Costs-to-achieve are an inherent component of any merger transaction and |
| 22 | | are necessary to successfully complete a transaction and/or produce the level of |
| 23 | | intended benefits. These costs-to-achieve are expenses that are directly related to |
| 24 | | pursuing or executing the transaction and have the effect of offsetting the level of |

| distributable benefits. | Were the total | cost savings | to be | distributed | without full |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------|-------------|----------------|
| recognition of these cos | sts to achieve, t | he utilities wo | ould, in | effect, be | distributing a |
| greater level of savings | than in fact exis | t. | | | |

A.

In addition, if these out-of-pocket costs were not recognized as a related element of producing cost savings, the Companies would effectively be required to support such expenditures without reimbursement. Thus, to be equitable to all parties, it is only the net level of savings that is available for sharing with customers. In the vast preponderance of utility merger transactions with which I am familiar, costs-to-achieve have been considered and recognized in determining the net level of benefits available to customers and shareholders. In other words, costs to achieve have been recognized and netted against gross merger synergies in determining distributable savings to customers and shareholders.

Q. WHAT PROCESS WAS UTILIZED BY THE COMPANIES IN DEVELOPING THE ESTIMATED COST SAVINGS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED MERGER?

The process began by examining underlying data related to the organization of each of the Companies from both publicly available and internally provided sources. This information encompassed geographical, organizational and operational data and included: total numbers of positions, positions distributed by various departments, position location, and related salaries and benefits.

Next, information related to specific cost categories, including recent actual and expected future expenses for these categories, was identified and obtained.

| Information obtained | through | this | process | included | external | spending, | and | various |
|------------------------|-----------|--------|-----------|------------|----------|-----------|-----|---------|
| forecasts and budgets, | as well a | ıs, in | ternal op | erating pl | lans. | | | |

A.

General organizational and operational philosophies for each Company were also identified. As part of this process, potential organizational and operational approaches were discussed and areas for potential savings were identified. This process resulted in the development of a set of area-by-area operating assumptions.

Finally, from all of the information and analyses identified above, savings estimates were developed, reviewed, analyzed, and revised by the management working groups, with the assistance of Booz Allen, to produce the level of estimated savings reflected in the initial merger announcement. This level of savings was subsequently refined with minor adjustments made to reflect revised baseline data and timing assumptions.

Q. WHAT WAS THE SCOPE OF THE ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY BOOZ ALLEN RELATED TO THE POTENTIAL COST SAVINGS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROPOSED MERGER?

Booz Allen was asked to assist the managements of the Companies in the identification and quantification of both potential savings and additional costs necessary to realize those savings associated with the merger. This assistance was provided based upon our previous experience and included assistance in the identification of necessary data elements and potential cost savings areas, discussion of potential organizational and operational philosophies, discussion of potential assumptions to be utilized by Companies, assistance in the identification and

| 1 | quantification of estimated savings and costs-to-achieve and comparison of results to |
|---|---|
| 2 | other previous transactions. |

3 Q. WERE PERSONNEL FROM THE COMPANIES INVOLVED IN THIS

4 PROCESS?

A.

A.

Yes, a number of senior management executives from both Companies were actively involved in the cost savings identification and quantification process described above. Initially, a small working group was involved in providing data to Booz Allen, confirming assumptions around the operating model and evaluating the identified savings opportunities, *i.e.*, the timing and amounts of savings. After announcement, a broader senior executive and middle management team was involved, representing the corporate, shared services and utility operating support areas of the Companies. These executives evaluated potential savings opportunities and provided guidance regarding the timing of savings realization, and in some cases, provided additional data to Booz Allen for purposes of developing savings estimates.

Q. IS THIS PROCESS TYPICAL OF OTHER COST SAVING ESTIMATION PROCESSES IN WHICH YOU HAVE BEEN ENGAGED?

Yes. The overall process undertaken by the two Companies to identify merger cost savings was typical of other engagements in which I have been involved. Senior executives from each company were identified to lead a joint synergies team, of which Booz Allen was a part. These executives had good visibility across the organization and within their respective areas of responsibility and were able to provide insights into how the business operated and to how particular impacts may occur given anticipated changes to the operating model.

In addition, a broader working group was in place to support this identification and quantification process comprised of several members of middle management which further increased the knowledge base available for the synergies analysis. The involvement of these personnel in the pre-announcement analysis provided the requisite operating insights into operations of the Companies and enabled the management groups to understand and assess the identified savings prior to announcement.

Α.

In addition, a post-announcement refinement process was undertaken to further review the initially identified synergies and to obtain additional source data given the tight confidentiality limitations that existed prior to announcement of the merger. This process enabled all assumptions to be validated and extended the number of involved management personnel from the Companies. In addition, it allowed for deeper analysis and review of the synergies areas to increase the confidence in attainment of these expected amounts.

The combination of these involved management group members in the preannouncement process and the expansion of the management group participation post-announcement, provided a sound basis for the identification and quantification of the estimated merger synergies.

Q. HOW WERE THE COST SAVINGS QUANTIFIED IN THIS PROCESS?

Estimates of cost savings were developed on a nominal cost basis over a ten-year period from the beginning of year one post-close (2006) through the end of year ten (2015), thus providing a longer-term view of attainable savings. Since the level of savings once integration is completed essentially simply grows with escalation, a five-

| 1 | year period has been adopted for presentation of the cost savings information. This |
|---|---|
| 2 | five-year period is representative of the level of ongoing savings and can be used as a |
| 3 | reasonable determination of both annual and cumulative savings. |

4 Q. ARE THE IDENTIFIED COST SAVINGS ONLY ATTAINABLE DURING

THIS DEFINED PERIOD?

A.

No. The majority of the identified savings components will generate benefits that will continue indefinitely into the future. For example, potential staffing reductions associated with the merger will generally continue into the future since they relate to redundant functions with no need to replace these displaced positions, although future business changes may require other resource additions to occur. Likewise, potential supply chain benefits will continue indefinitely as the cost of materials and supplies acquisition is reduced.

Although the cost savings estimated over the period generally will continue into perpetuity, only a five-year period has been used to present these savings as this period fully illustrates the ramp-up in savings realization. The estimates of cost savings are presented in nominal dollars over the relevant period of the merger to recognize that these savings increase annually from the ramp-up and that they will flow to customers and shareholders on that basis at some future point in time.

Q. WHAT METHODS WERE USED TO QUANTIFY THE INDIVIDUAL COST SAVINGS COMPONENTS?

21 A. Cost savings were developed using three principal methods of quantification:

Direct analysis - Use of actual costs and changes to these costs based on planned consolidation activities (e.g., position reductions were estimated based on detailed analyses of fully aligned individual functions and positions).

Q.

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- Estimation Determination, based upon more limited analysis of actual data, of potential merger-related cost reductions considering anticipated changes to markets and operations (e.g., reduction in materials and supplies costs from enhanced strategic sourcing and additional volume buying).
- Comparison to other transactions Utilization of expectations in other proposed utility mergers as a proxy for the Companies' impacts (e.g., average insurance premium reductions based on expected or realized reductions achieved by other companies).

Of the three methods, the vast majority of the savings were quantified by using direct analysis. These several methods of quantification are consistent with those utilized by other utility companies in prior mergers, particularly where subsequent negotiations will ensue. For example, it is well recognized that insurance premiums will be reduced from a merger; however, the actual amount of the reduction will not be known until negotiations with an insurance broker are finalized. Using other expected or realized reduction amounts is an appropriate method for quantification pending such negotiation.

ARE THERE ALTERNATIVE ORGANIZATIONAL MODELS AVAILABLE TO THE COMPANIES TO ACHIEVE THE IDENTIFIED COST SAVINGS?

Yes. The Companies will have a great deal of flexibility in determining how to organize the business to provide for effective performance and to maximize the level of savings attained. Certain functions that are commonly performed for more than a

single entity will become part of a service company that is a legal entity; however, the existence of this entity does not impact how these functions can be aligned and organized in actually performing these functions.

The cost savings related to identical or similar functions within the Companies are, however, predicated upon achieving a level of integration that enables a common model for execution between the Companies. This integration could occur in several ways: within an expanded headquarters organization; within a corporate level shared services entity; within an operating level shared services entity; through a functional or process model across the companies; or by a combination of integration of corporate and headquarters function at the corporate level and integration of common technical support services into the operating units, such as the utilities. Any of these approaches would provide the Companies an opportunity to realize merger cost savings in those affected areas.

In quantifying cost savings, it was assumed that a fully aligned and integrated organizational model would be implemented, *i.e.*, related functions would be performed across the operating utilities on a common basis, regardless of where the responsible resource was actually located. This approach assumes that common corporate and headquarters functions would generally be performed in a shared services entity, with common technical support functions either similarly centralized, or located as required within the various operating units. I will further discuss the underlying organizational concept later in my testimony.

Cinergy already operates in a service company environment that provides a preliminary model for adoption and implementation. Given the breadth of

| geographies served, the discrete business units in place within the Companies and the |
|---|
| distribution of resources within these potential business units, certain of these |
| business unit support functions, e.g., human resources, budgeting, information |
| management support, etc. are located within multiple operating areas throughout the |
| system. Thus, the Companies have a broad degree of discretion on how to align (i.e., |
| centralize or decentralize) the processes, activities and resources within the |
| headquarters, support and operating organizations. |

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A.

Q. CAN THE LEVEL OF SAVINGS ESTIMATED BY THE COMPANIES AND REFLECTED IN YOUR TESTIMONY BE ACHIEVED?

Yes. The process utilized by the Companies for estimating potential merger cost savings was consistent with that utilized by other companies in previous merger transactions. As a result, the savings levels are reasonably attainable provided that management of the combined Company executes its integration plans in a manner consistent with its intent and how other utilities have pursued similar opportunities.

V. <u>DETAILED COST SAVINGS DESCRIPTION</u>

A. Summary

16 Q. YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED THAT APPROXIMATELY \$807 MILLION

17 IN NET MERGER SAVINGS HAVE BEEN QUANTIFIED BY THE

18 COMPANIES OVER THE FIRST FIVE YEARS POST-CLOSE. WOULD

19 YOU IDENTIFY AND DEFINE THE PRINCIPAL CATEGORIES OF COST

20 SAVINGS THAT COMPRISE THIS AMOUNT?

Yes. As Attachment TJF-2 illustrates, there are six primary categories of cost savings that have been quantified. Each of these is described briefly below:

Corporate and Headquarters Staffing - Position reductions related to redundancies 1 in staffing levels associated with corporate and administrative functions, such as 2 finance and accounting, human resources, information technology and supply 3 chain, among others. 4 Utility Support Staffing - Position reductions in operating support areas, such as 5 asset management, operations planning, customer care and other business unit 6 support related to redundancies in back-office staffing levels. 7 Corporate and Administrative Programs - Reductions in non-labor programs and 8 expenses, such as insurance and shareholder services, resulting from economies of 9 scale and cost avoidance. 10 Information Technology - Consolidation of operating environments including 11 data centers, network servers, workstations and applications, among other areas, 12 from selection of a single operating platform. 13 Supply Chain - Improved strategic sourcing of materials and contract services 14 from specification standardization, vendor consolidation, rationalization of 15 requirements and, aggregation of spend for purchasing. 16 Coal Supply - Consolidation of commodity supply requirements from alignment 17 of sources, assessment of coal specification requirements and new supply strategy. 18 These savings categories provide for approximately \$1.3 billion in gross cost 19 savings, before allocation between the regulated and non-regulated segments, over the 20 five-year period and continue thereafter. 21 ARE THERE ANY ITEMS THAT OFFSET MERGER SAVINGS? 22 Q.

Yes. Cost savings initiatives which were already planned prior to the merger were subtracted from the gross savings estimates because there is likely to be some overlap between these initiatives and identified cost savings resulting from the merger. These

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| 1 | | ongoing or future initiatives will contribute to lower total costs to customers and are |
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| 2 | | estimated at \$10 million over the five-year period. The merger thus allows the |
| 3 | | Companies to achieve additional cost savings opportunities beyond those previously |
| 4 | | identified. These savings are subtracted from the gross merger savings because they |
| 5 | | are not merger-related initiatives. |
| 6 | | Additionally, the costs to achieve the merger are offset against gross savings |
| 7 | | as discussed below. |
| 8 | Q. | WHAT ARE THE CATEGORIES OF AND APPROXIMATE COSTS |
| 9 | | NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE THE SAVINGS? |
| 10 | A. | There are several categories of costs that must be incurred to achieve the identified |
| 11 | | savings that are expected by the Companies. These costs reflect expenditures |
| 12 | | necessary to effectuate the cost savings identified from the merger through company |
| 13 | | integration. These categories of costs-to-achieve, as listed below, are further |
| 14 | | illustrated in Attachment TJF-3: |
| 15 | | • Separation |
| 16 | | • Retention |
| 17 | | • Relocation |
| 18 | | Directors' and Officers Coverage |
| 19 | | Regulatory Process and Compliance |
| 20 | | Internal / External Communications |
| 21 | | Transition Costs |

• Transaction Costs

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| 1 | | Estimated costs-to-achieve total approximately \$513 million, which will principally |
|---|----|---|
| 2 | | be incurred in 2005 through 2008, but will extend over a multi-year period to reflect |
| 3 | | certain ongoing costs. |
| 4 | Q. | WHAT IS THE ANTICIPATED LEVEL OF TOTAL COST SAVINGS AFTER |
| 5 | | PRE-MERGER INITIATIVES SAVINGS AND COSTS TO ACHIEVE ARE |
| 6 | | REFLECTED? |
| 7 | A. | The total estimated cost savings identified from the merger over the first five years |
| 8 | | after the merger, after being adjusted for costs to achieve and pre-merger initiatives, |
| 9 | | are approximately \$807 million. The annual level of steady-state savings at the end of |
| 10 | | this five-year period will continue into perpetuity as related reduction decisions have |
| 11 | | been fully implemented. |
| 12 | | B. General Assumptions |
| | | |
| 13 | | 1. Escalation Rates |
| 13 14 | Q. | 1. <u>Escalation Rates</u> WHAT ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT THE ESCALATION OF COSTS WERE |
| | Q. | |
| 14 | Q. | WHAT ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT THE ESCALATION OF COSTS WERE |
| 14 15 | | WHAT ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT THE ESCALATION OF COSTS WERE UTILIZED BY THE COMPANIES IN ESTIMATING COST SAVINGS? |
| 141516 | | WHAT ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT THE ESCALATION OF COSTS WERE UTILIZED BY THE COMPANIES IN ESTIMATING COST SAVINGS? For the most part, cost savings were estimated based on 2005 budgeted expense |
| 14151617 | | WHAT ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT THE ESCALATION OF COSTS WERE UTILIZED BY THE COMPANIES IN ESTIMATING COST SAVINGS? For the most part, cost savings were estimated based on 2005 budgeted expense levels. In certain cases, such as shareholder services, 2004 data was used because a |
| 14 15 16 17 18 | | WHAT ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT THE ESCALATION OF COSTS WERE UTILIZED BY THE COMPANIES IN ESTIMATING COST SAVINGS? For the most part, cost savings were estimated based on 2005 budgeted expense levels. In certain cases, such as shareholder services, 2004 data was used because a greater level of accuracy could be achieved by using actual, as opposed to budgeted. |
| 14 15 16 17 18 19 | | WHAT ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT THE ESCALATION OF COSTS WERE UTILIZED BY THE COMPANIES IN ESTIMATING COST SAVINGS? For the most part, cost savings were estimated based on 2005 budgeted expense levels. In certain cases, such as shareholder services, 2004 data was used because a greater level of accuracy could be achieved by using actual, as opposed to budgeted data. To account for inflation appropriately, specific escalation rates were then |

| 1 | | understatement of the total cost savings available over this period due to the year-to- |
|----|----|--|
| 2 | | year change in baseline cost levels. |
| 3 | Q. | WAS THE SAME ESCALATION RATE USED FOR ALL SAVINGS |
| 4 | | CATEGORIES? |
| 5 | A. | No. A differential existed in the anticipated escalation rates for the cost categories |
| 6 | | included in the analysis (e.g., differences between salaries and other cost categories). |
| 7 | | For this reason, a single escalation rate could not be used for all cost savings |
| 8 | | categories. Although approximately 2.3% was used for general inflation, a higher |
| 9 | | blended rate (approximately 4.4%) was used for salaries and benefits to reflect market |
| 10 | | requirements and existing contractual arrangements. This 4.4% level is consistent |
| 11 | | with the Companies' pre-merger, stand-alone assumptions for salary and benefit |
| 12 | | increases. This blended rate reflects an escalation rate of 9.1% for benefits due to the |
| 13 | | continuing high rate of inflation for medical costs that industry has experienced. |
| 14 | | These escalation rates are comparable to those used by other companies with which I |
| 15 | | am familiar and to other longer-term estimates for general inflation. |
| 16 | | 2. Treatment of Capital Savings |
| 17 | Q. | WERE THERE OTHER GENERAL ASSUMPTIONS OR METHODOLO- |
| 18 | | GIES EMPLOYED IN THE COST SAVINGS ANALYSIS? |
| 19 | A. | Yes. In treating capital deferrals and avoidance related to the merger, such as in |
| 20 | | information technology investment, it would be inappropriate to count the entire cash |
| 21 | | amount of the capital expenditure deferred or avoided as cost savings. For example, |
| | | |

if it were anticipated that the Companies could avoid incurring a \$10 million system

upgrade in 2007, this reduction in expenditures was not used for the actual savings.

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Including the \$10 million as savings achieved in 2007 would not represent the avoided revenue requirements associated with that capital expenditure from either the company or customers' perspectives. Additionally, such a methodology would result in overstating the cost savings in the early years following the merger by taking credit for the entire avoided investment as cost savings in those years. Instead, it is more appropriate to reflect only the revenue requirements savings associated with capital deferral/avoidance as cost savings. The components of revenue requirements include financing, depreciation, insurance and property tax. A levelized revenue requirements approach, rather than a cash flow approach, provides a more appropriate determination of the savings estimated to be generated due to the merger.

Α.

Q. WHAT METHODOLOGY WAS USED TO CAPTURE THESE CAPITAL DEFERRAL/AVOIDANCE SAVINGS?

A levelized fixed charge rate for each year following completion of the merger was applied to each year's capital expenditure reductions. The fixed charge rate methodology, which reflects normal declining balance ratemaking treatment, was used to estimate annual savings levels. Fixed charge rates were determined by both Duke Power and the Cinergy operating companies and then were blended to determine both general rates for long term assets and specific rates for information technology-related expenditures. The levelized fixed charge rate for capital items other than information technology was 13.0% while for information technology items it was 27.3%, reflecting the more rapid (five year) depreciation period.

| 1 | C. Cost Savings Summary |
|-------------|--|
| 2 | 1. Corporate and Headquarters Staffing |
| 3 Q | PLEASE DISCUSS IN MORE DETAIL THE NATURE OF THE COST |
| 4 | SAVINGS CREATED THROUGH THE INTEGRATION OF THE |
| 5 | CORPORATE AND HEADQUARTERS STAFFING FUNCTIONS. |
| 6 A | The combined Companies expect to fully integrate existing corporate and |
| 7 | headquarters areas, such as strategic planning, treasury and compensation, among |
| 8 | others. Such integration would generate savings through the elimination of redundant |
| 9 | positions within these functions as the scope of related activities are generally |
| 10 | identical within each Company. |
| 11 | A merger between the Companies provides an opportunity to consolidate these |
| 12 | functions and eliminate redundant activities. For example, the consolidation of two |
| 13 | information technology functions would typically create significant savings. Potential |
| 14 | redundancy within the two departments is identified through an alignment of sub- |
| 15 | functions between the Companies to ensure comparability across different |
| 16 | organizational structures. Each individual sub-function within the information |
| 17 | technology area contains positions performing duplicate tasks. Overlapping positions |
| 18 | for non-variable work activity can be consolidated and subsequently eliminated |
| 19 | without an impact on remaining workload volumes. |
| 20 Q | . HOW WAS THIS PRINCIPLE APPLIED TO DETERMINE THE |
| 21 | POTENTIAL POSITION SAVINGS THAT WOULD RESULT FROM A |

MERGER OF THE COMPANIES?

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| The first step in determining corporate and headquarters staffing savings was to |
|---|
| develop a detailed functional alignment of each Company. Each Company provided |
| functional and sub-functional breakdowns that identified each position within its |
| respective organization. The stand-alone company functional areas then were aligned, |
| by sub-function, so that position levels for similar activities performed by the |
| respective companies could be compared. The analysis maintained consistency |
| between the inter-company functional categories and aligned representative activities |
| between the Companies. |

Upon completion of the functional and sub-functional alignment, the positions necessary to perform the required activities on a merged company basis were identified. In determining the appropriate going-forward future position levels of the merged company, the following items were considered:

- The relevant operating model to be employed within the particular area
 - The relative scale and resource concentration between the two companies
- The type of activity and potential for redundancy
 - The fixed or variable nature of the activity

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17 Consideration of these factors provided the means by which going-forward 18 staffing levels could then be defined and resulting reductions determined.

Q. WHAT OPERATIONAL MODEL WAS ASSUMED FOR DETERMINATION OF STAFFING REDUCTIONS IN THE CORPORATE AND HEADQUARTERS FUNCTIONS?

Although no specific organizational structure was assumed to be in place post-closing of the transaction, there was a guiding presumption that the Companies would

establish an operating model that would allow them to capture available savings from alignment, standardization and integration of common functions. This meant that similar functions would be fully integrated, where practical, and that resources would be aligned in the most effective manner to execute corporate objectives. It was intended that full organizational design flexibility would be maintained by the Companies to develop an operating structure that reflected the prerogatives of management and the requirements of managing and executing the business.

At the corporate level, it was assumed that those functions that relate to managing the business on an enterprise basis, *e.g.*, strategic planning, finance and accounting, external relations, *etc.*, would be fully integrated to reflect the overlap and duplication in these areas. With respect to these functions, consolidation would occur in those areas that were not geographically dependent, such as investor relations, or were related to business policy, such as compensation and benefits.

The identified staffing reductions in the corporate and headquarters areas also assumed that a shared services entity, similar to what each company currently has in place, would also be in place after the close of the transaction. This type of entity typically aligns the common and transactional elements of the various functions, such as human resources, information technology, supply chain, *etc.*, that are performed to capture economies of scale. Without defining whether the scope of this shared services entity could increase to incorporate other transactional activities, it was assumed that this type of organization would remain in place and serve as a means to achieve standardization and lower unit costs for similar activities.

1 Q. HOW WOULD COMPANIES' PROPOSAL FOR A SEPARATE SERVICE 2 COMPANY AFFECT THIS ASSUMED OPERATING MODEL?

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- The Companies propose the use of the service company to provide common functions on behalf of more than one entity within the holding company on a recurring basis. This organizational unit, however, does not impact the operating model or the organization structure in place. Its purpose is to capture relevant costs for purposes of regulatory compliance related to cost allocations. How a company elects to organize and operate is largely independent of the existence of the service company. Consequently, Duke Energy and Cinergy will be able to maintain substantial flexibility in organizing the company on a going-forward basis. This effectively means that there would be no impact on the level of identified staffing reductions in the corporate and headquarters functions as a result of maintaining a service company.
- Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE RESULTS OF THE CORPORATE AND
 HEADQUARTERS STAFFING ANALYSIS DISCUSSED ABOVE.
 - As of June 2005, Duke Energy had a total of 2,904 positions in the corporate and shared services areas, while Cinergy had a total of 1,343 positions at this same date for these functions. Approximately 574 corporate and headquarters position reductions were identified by the Companies that could result from the consolidation, which constitutes 13.5 % of the combined corporate and headquarters position baseline. These reductions represent the anticipated level of functional duplication that would exist between the Companies and could be avoided through the creation of an integrated corporate and headquarters organization. The savings associated with this area are \$46.4 million in the first year and grow to \$79.0 million by the third year

| when all information technology conversion is completed and steady-state operation | S |
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| are achieved. | |

2. Utility Support Staffing

4 Q. WHAT OPERATING MODEL WAS ASSUMED FOR THE ANALYSIS OF

THE UTILITY SUPPORT AREAS?

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Given that utility operating companies exist in multiple state jurisdictions and the different approaches to organization within these companies, a common model needed to be defined for consideration with respect to operations and organization. A model was adopted where similar and commonly performed functions were assumed to be aligned, harmonized and integrated, regardless of where they were located. This meant that work could be electronically shared across the utility operating companies, where practical, so that local resources could support company-wide operations efforts and reduce the total level of staffing required. Thus, the total plant or field support staff work requirements could be distributed across engineering staff located in any one of the states where the new company will operate and joint standards would be in place to guide the work performed. Similarly, common back-office support in areas such as operations planning, budgeting and project management could also be consolidated and executed from any location in support of overall utility operations.

With respect to the fossil supply business, it was assumed that the vast majority of the resources dedicated to this area would largely be unaffected by the merger as they are dedicated to plant operations and located at the physical facilities performing related work. However, for those functions that relate to areas such as

business unit management, engineering, outage planning, maintenance standards and other common functions in place to support each Company's fleet, it was assumed that these resources could be shared across the operating companies and would be aligned to allow for a fully integrated operating model to be employed. The adoption of this type of model does not require relocation of personnel between the Companies rather, it simply enables available resources to be jointly leveraged and scheduled to meet the total work requirements of the business. Under this operating model there is no reduction in the level of dedicated resources to either Company's plants, thus service reliability is not affected.

Similarly in the transmission and distribution business, the vast majority of resources are totally unaffected by the merger as the field work volumes are not reduced. Thus, there is no impact to service reliability, quality or safety from the merger as no reductions in staffing are expected in the field execution areas. Again, however, certain common back-office related functions, like those identified for the fossil supply business above in engineering, planning, *etc.*, would lend themselves to integration under such a "virtual" operating model concept. In these areas, resources would again be leveraged across the operating companies where common functions are performed for the benefit of the business as a whole.

With respect to the customer service area, the Companies intend to move to a single billing platform which will enable a variety of customer care functions like customer accounting, remittance processing and credit and collections to be fully integrated. The consolidation of these functions will enable back-office resources to also be reduced. In addition, customer inquiry will be integrated across the operating

companies similar to how Cinergy currently operates. The common billing platform will enable customer calls to be routed to any Company call center, regardless of location, and be handled in a standard, systematic manner. This will improve overall productivity and allow for the total customer representative staffing base to be sized to meet the combined needs of the Companies, rather than simply the sum of the two stand-alone companies.

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In each of the operating models described above, the field operations of the Companies, *i.e.*, the plants and the crews, are unaffected with no impacts to service reliability, quality or safety, except to the extent they may be enhanced by ready access to additional emergency (typically storm) support personnel. In addition, there is no movement of assets or resources away from their jurisdictional control and, therefore, no impact to the ability of local regulators to continue to monitor operating company performance or to maintain access to responsible operating company management.

Q. WHAT LEVEL OF SAVINGS WAS QUANTIFIED WITH RESPECT TO UTILITY SUPPORT STAFFING?

The baseline level of utility staffing for Duke Power was 8,679 and for the Cinergy operating companies was 5,321. The identified staffing reductions in the utilities were 432 positions, which represent 3.1% of the overall staffing baseline in the utility support area. These amounts reflect reductions that arise directly from adoption of the "virtual" operating model where functions are consolidated and managed and executed across the operating Companies in the plant and field support back-office functions. The total level of labor savings in the utility support area was quantified at

- \$13.0 million in the first year growing to \$31.3 million by the third year when steadystate operations are achieved.
- 3 Q. WHAT ARE THE ESTIMATED TOTAL POSITION REDUCTIONS FROM
- 4 THE COMBINATION OF THE COMPANIES?
- 5 A. Total position reductions are estimated at 1,006 or approximately 5.5% of total
- 6 current combined company corporate, shared services and regulated utility positions.
- 7 These reductions reflect the operating models discussed above and result from the
- 8 ability to reduce overlapping responsibilities, align related functions and activities and
- 9 leverage a consolidated resource base.
- 10 O. WHEN ARE THESE POSITION REDUCTIONS ASSUMED TO OCCUR?
- 11 A. The Companies intend to achieve a number of these reductions, 557, by the beginning
- of the first year following completion of the merger. Due to the need for extensive
- integration of information systems applications that will be required in association
- with consolidating operations of the Companies, approximately 449 reductions will
- not be fully realized until the second or third years following completion of the
- 16 merger. These reductions have been synchronized with anticipated system
- 17 completion dates to reflect the timing of system cut-overs, work practice
- standardization and process harmonization.
- 19 O. ONCE THE POTENTIAL POSITION REDUCTIONS WERE IDENTIFIED,
- 20 HOW WERE THE POSITION REDUCTION COST SAVINGS
- 21 **CALCULATED?**
- 22 A. Average salary levels were calculated by function and then applied to the identified
- position reductions in those respective areas. The average blended salary for the

- 1 position reductions identified (excluding executives) is estimated to be approximately 2 \$70,000 in 2006 dollars based on the expected salary levels for each company, 3 weighted by the number of functional resources in each Company, and then escalated one year.
- 5 Q. ARE THERE COST **SAVINGS** ASSOCIATED WITH **POSITION** 6 REDUCTIONS OTHER THAN SALARY EXPENSE?

- 7 Yes. Benefit costs are also considered when determining the cost savings associated A. 8 with position reductions. Benefits include such items as health insurance, life 9 insurance, employee investment plans, pension expense, accruals for retirement health 10 benefits of active positions, incentives and bonuses, payroll taxes and others. A 11 blended benefits loading rate of 30.9% was used to estimate average aggregate 12 benefits cost. The resulting total compensation (excluding executives), including 13 benefits, averaged approximately \$95,000 in 2006 dollars.
- 14 WAS ANY PORTION OF THESE CORPORATE, HEADQUARTERS AND Q. 15 UTILITY SUPPORT STAFFING SAVINGS CAPITALIZED?
- 16 A certain portion of these expenses are capitalized rather than expensed Α. 17 annually, reflecting their relation to the capital or construction elements of the 18 business. Capitalized amounts thus are recovered over the life of the asset to which 19 these costs are assigned. A blended capitalization rate of approximately 4.2% was 20 used based on the stand-alone expectations of each company weighted by relative 21 size.

| | _ | | THE CONTRACTOR | EDOM CODDOD ATE |
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| 1 | Ο. | WHAT TOTAL SAVINGS LEVEL | , WAS ESTIMATED | FROM CORPORATE, |

2 HEADQUARTERS AND UTILITY SUPPORT STAFFING

3 **CONSOLIDATION?**

- A. Cost savings from corporate, headquarters and utility support staffing consolidation were estimated at \$59.4 million the first year, \$96.2 million in the second year, and \$110.3 million in year three, when steady-state operations is achieved. Total savings
- for the five—year period were estimated to be approximately \$507 million.

8 Q. COULD THESE POSITION SAVINGS HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED WITHOUT

9 THE MERGER?

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No. The position reductions described are solely attributed to the merger. The reduction opportunities arise from overlap and duplication in functional performance, rather than from stand-alone initiatives unrelated to the merger. The savings discussed above are triggered by the opportunity to combine functions and eliminate redundancy, not by assumed improvements in operating efficiencies. Although continuous improvement programs are regularly pursued, the savings identified above are not related to these stand-alone initiatives. Where cost reductions planned post-2005 were identified, these impacts were subsequently identified, quantified and offset against potential savings to avoid double-counting potential non-merger impacts. The subject of pre-merger initiatives is discussed further elsewhere in this testimony.

3. Corporate And Administrative Programs

22 Q. WHAT COST SAVINGS CAN BE CREATED THROUGH CORPORATE

23 PROGRAM AND EXPENDITURE CONSOLIDATION?

| 1 | A. | The integration of corporate and administrative functions reduces certain non-labor |
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| 2 | | costs, primarily through the consolidation of overlapping or duplicative programs and |
| 3 | | expenses. |

Two examples, insurance and information systems expenses, will illustrate how these savings are created through a merger:

- Insurance Cost savings typically would be realized in the areas of property insurance and excess general liability insurance, among others. On a stand-alone basis, each company carries insurance (or is self-insured) in these areas independently. A larger combined company will have a reduced risk profile because of its broader asset base. In addition, asset concentration will be less significant due to the broader geography and more diversified balance sheet, which should translate into lower rates for the combined company.
 - Information systems Organizations must facilitate systems development and support the information processing needs of each company. Companies typically have independent plans to develop a variety of systems in the future, including parallel systems development efforts. A combination would enable the Companies to avoid incurring these duplicate capital expenditures. Additional information systems savings could result from deferred capital projects, such as server upgrades or workstation purchases. Additionally, savings could be realized from the elimination of other duplicate costs, including disaster recovery, software support, miscellaneous software and hardware, license fees, and computer maintenance.

Q. WHAT ARE THE AMOUNTS, BY SPECIFIC AREA, OF THE CORPORATE AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRAM SAVINGS?

A. Savings were identified and quantified over the five-year period in the following areas:

| 1 2 3 | | | | ive-Year Total Millions) | | |
|-------------|----|---|-------|--------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| 4 | | Administrative & General Overhead | \$ | 40.9 | | |
| 5 | | Association Dues | | 3.9 | | |
| 6 | | Benefits | | 37.2 | | |
| 7 | | Directors' Fees | | 4.2 | | |
| 8 | | Facilities | | 23.3 | | |
| 9 | | Insurance | | 29.1 | | |
| 10 | | Inventory | | 6.5 | | |
| 11 | | Professional Services | | 219.7 | | |
| 12 | | Shareholder Services | | 9.5 | | |
| 13 | | Transportation | | 3.9 | | |
| 14 | | Total Corporate & Administrative Programs | \$ | 378.1 | | |
| 15 | | Each of the aforementioned categories is described be | low. | | | |
| 16 | | a. Administrative and General | ral O | <u>verhead</u> | | |
| 17 | Q. | WHAT TYPES OF EXPENSES ARE INCLUI | DED | IN ADM | INISTR | ATIVE |
| 18 | | AND GENERAL OVERHEAD EXPENSE | ANI |) HOW | ARE | THEY |
| 19 | | AFFECTED BY THE MERGER? | | | | |
| 20 | ۸ | Administrative and general overhead expense in | clude | s. but is | not lin | nited to, |

Administrative and general overhead expense includes, but is not limited to, 20 A. periodicals, postage (other than customer billing), employee travel and education, and 21 office supply expenses related to employee support. These costs vary with the total 22 number of positions and change as the level of employee staffing increases or 23 decreases. As position reductions are realized, the related administrative and general 24 support expenses will be reduced accordingly. 25

HOW WERE THE ESTIMATED COST SAVINGS QUANTIFIED FOR THIS 26 Q. 27 AREA?

- Miscellaneous overhead expenses were identified and separated between fixed and variable components and divided by the total positions for which they were applicable. Between the two Companies, a total blended amount of approximately \$18,000 was derived for these miscellaneous overheads per employee. The variable portion of the total administrative and general costs for the Companies was approximately \$14,000 per employee and was then multiplied by total merger-related administrative and general corporate position reductions to arrive at a merger savings level for this area. The related merger savings were estimated at \$5.5 million in the first year, \$7.9 million in the second, and growing to \$9.0 million when steady-state operations are achieved by year three.
- COULD THESE MISCELLANEOUS OVERHEAD EXPENSE SAVINGS BE 11 Q. ACHIEVED ABSENT A MERGER? 12
- No. These savings are directly related to the position reductions that would result 13 A. 14 from the merger.
- b. Association Dues 15

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- PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW DUES AND MEMBERSHIPS COULD BE 16 Q. AFFECTED BY THE MERGER OF THE COMPANIES. 17
- Both companies are members of the Edison Electric Institute, the trade organization 18 A. for the electric industry. The combination will allow opportunities to realize an overall lower level of expenditures under the EEI formula compared to the 20 expenditures under the formula on a stand-alone basis. These savings arise due to the declining unit rate applied in each of the three factors after initial threshold levels are 22 met.

1 Q. HOW WERE SAVINGS IN DUES AND MEMBERSHIPS QUANTIFIED?

- A. A review of each company's industry and trade memberships was performed. A review for common organizations was conducted with overlapping memberships identified and the smaller expenditure was reduced or any formulaic calculations made to reflect the consolidation of memberships in these organizations. The resulting estimated savings identified were \$0.7 million in the first year and growing
- 8 Q. COULD THE SAVINGS IN DUES AND MEMBERSHIPS BE ACHIEVED
- 10 A. No, they can only be achieved by consolidating related memberships. Otherwise, 11 there will continue to be two sets of memberships under separate formulas.
- 12 c. Benefits

with escalation thereafter.

ABSENT A MERGER?

- 13 Q. HOW CAN COST SAVINGS RELATED TO BENEFITS ARISE FROM THIS
- 14 **MERGER?**

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Benefits savings typically arise from two sources: the consolidation of benefits plan 15 A. administration and related costs and the reduction in the cost of the dollar of benefits 16 obtained. The benefits administration costs can be reduced through the alignment of 17 plan trustees and the management of multiple plans through a single administrator. 18 Through the consolidation of the benefits plan themselves, the cost of benefits can 19 also be reduced from aggregation of the plan members and the reduction in the unit 20 21 cost of the benefit dollar procured. This plan consolidation would be linked to existing contract expirations and the evaluation of national and regional providers 22 from coverage, quality and cost perspectives. 23

| 1 | Ο. | WHAT IS THE L | LEVEL OF | BENEFITS | RELATED | COST SAVINGS? |
|---|----|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|----------------------|
|---|----|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|----------------------|

2 A. The respective benefits administrative costs paid and benefits costs incurred by the
3 Companies were reviewed to determine the opportunities for administrator and plan
4 consolidation. The level of savings from the consolidation of the benefits program is
5 estimated at \$8.1 million in the second year growing to \$8.9 million by the third year
6 when steady-state operations is achieved.

7 d. <u>Directors' Fees</u>

8 Q. HOW ARE SAVINGS IN DIRECTORS' FEES DERIVED FROM UTILITY

COMBINATIONS?

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A. These savings result from the reduced number of total directors for the new company compared to that of Duke Energy and Cinergy today. The new Company will have a Board of Directors numbering fifteen directors, comprised of ten directors from Duke Energy and five from Cinergy. The elimination of seven board members will reduce overall director fees for meetings, committee participation and travel for these individuals. The source of the savings is the reduced meeting and committee fees paid to directors as a result of these directors leaving the board, as well as the reduction in travel related costs from the fewer directors on the new board.

18 Q. HOW WERE COST SAVINGS ESTIMATES IN THIS CATEGORY 19 DEVELOPED?

20 A. The number of directors for each company was identified along with the associated costs. Based on the average fees and expenses for directors at each Company, the total savings would amount to \$0.8 million per year.

| 1 | Q. | COULD | THE | SAVINGS | ASSOCIATED | WITH | DIRECTORS' | FEES | BE |
|---|----|-------|-----|----------------|------------|------|------------|-------------|----|
|---|----|-------|-----|----------------|------------|------|------------|-------------|----|

2 **ACHIEVED ABSENT A MERGER?**

- 3 A. No. These savings are directly merger-related in that they are derived from merger-
- 4 related reductions in the number of board members required by the new Company
- 5 when compared to the existing two companies. These savings could not be achieved
- without the merger since the total number of directors would not have been affected
- 7 on a stand alone basis.

e. Facilities

9 Q. WHAT SAVINGS CAN BE REALIZED THROUGH CONSOLIDATION OF

10 TOTAL CORPORATE FACILITIES?

- 11 A. Cost savings will arise in this category from the reduction of the total square footage
- needed to be maintained for the relevant employee base after adjustment for the
- reduced total employee level. This expense is variable with the number of employees
- and reflects the cost per square foot for space and related maintenance costs.

15 O. WHAT WAS THE MAGNITUDE OF SAVINGS ASSOCIATED WITH

16 FACILITIES CONSOLIDATION?

- 17 A. Because the location of the staff reductions will not be known until the integration
- process is further along, the average amount of square footage per employee for
- 19 existing space and cost per square foot across all the corporate facilities was
- developed for application against expected staff reductions. This space would be
- sublet to another occupant at the prevailing market rate across the available locations.
- Based on this approach, facilities savings were estimated at \$3.1 million in the first
- year, ramping up to a level of \$5.1 million savings by the end of the third year

- following the merger, when steady-state operations is achieved.
- 2 Q. COULD THESE SAVINGS BE ACHIEVED ABSENT A MERGER?
- 3 A. No. The facilities consolidation savings are possible only as the result of the
- 4 consolidation of the Companies and the resulting position reductions described above.
- If the Companies were to remain as separate corporate entities, then these savings
- 6 could not otherwise occur.
- 7 f. <u>Insurance</u>
- 8 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE RATIONALE OF HOW SAVINGS CAN BE
- 9 ACHIEVED IN THE AREA OF INSURANCE.
- 10 A. Utilities generally require insurance coverage in the areas of property, directors' and
- officers' liability and excess casualty. On a stand-alone basis, each company
- independently carries insurance in these areas which they have obtained on a
- negotiated basis from external brokers or through self-insurance. A combined
- 14 company may have a reduced risk profile because of its broader and more diverse
- asset base, which translates into lower rates. Further savings can be attained through
- the ability to carry higher deductibles given the combined company's increased
- financial strength.
- 18 Q. HOW WERE THE SAVINGS IN THE AREA OF INSURANCE QUANTIFIED
- 19 IN THIS TRANSACTION?
- 20 A. Savings on insurance premiums were calculated for property coverage, directors and
- officers coverage, fiduciary coverage and, liability coverage. These reductions were
- derived based on discussions with the risk mangers in the respective companies and
- 23 review of experience in other mergers regarding actual savings negotiated with

| 1 | | insurance brokers. The total estimated savings for insurance is \$5.5 million in the |
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| 2 | | first year and growing with escalation thereafter. |
| 3 | Q. | COULD THE SAVINGS THAT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED IN THE |
| 4 | | INSURANCE AREA BE ACHIEVED ABSENT A MERGER? |
| 5 | A. | No. These savings are predicated directly on the assumption that there is a single |
| 6 | | company procuring insurance coverage on the basis of the combined risk profile of |
| 7 | | that entity. |
| 8 | | g. <u>Professional Services</u> |
| 9 | Q. | WHAT GIVES RISE TO SAVINGS IN THE AREA OF PROFESSIONAL |
| 10 | | SERVICES? |
| 11 | A. | The combined company can reduce professional services activities through economies |
| 12 | | of scope, elimination of non-recurring duplicate services and increased utilization of a |
| 13 | | broader skill base. Audit costs and additional attest services (e.g., bond insurance |
| 14 | | letter, pension plan audits, stock issuance) can be reduced as a result of duplication. |
| 15 | | Similarly, legal expenditures (regulatory and corporate) and consulting expenditures |
| 16 | | can be avoided due to redundancy and duplication and reduced from supplier |
| 17 | | rationalization and substitution of in-house resources for external services. |
| 18 | Q. | HOW WERE SAVINGS IN THE AREA OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES |
| 19 | | QUANTIFIED, AND WHAT WAS THEIR MAGNITUDE? |
| 20 | A. | Expenditures, by category. e.g., accounting, legal, consulting, etc., were aligned |
| 21 | | between both companies to determine baseline professional fees. Each category was |
| 22 | | assessed based on the needs of the business, the nature of the services obtained, the |
| 23 | | level of third-party assistance obtained and the likely availability of internal resources |

| 1 | to be deployed against these specific needs. The total savings resulting from the | nese |
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| 2 | reductions was estimated at \$40.2 million in the first year and growing thereafter. | |

3 Q. COULD THESE SAVINGS BE ACHIEVED ABSENT A MERGER?

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A. No. They can only be achieved by consolidating the use of professional services within a single company. Otherwise, there will continue to be two different sets of independent auditors, two comprehensive sets of external legal counsel and two different sets of general consultants.

h. Shareholder Services

9 Q. HOW WILL THE MERGER OF THE COMPANIES IMPACT THE 10 EXPENSES INCURRED FOR SHAREHOLDER SERVICES?

- 11 A. Cost savings will arise in this area with respect to both fixed and variable costs related
 12 to expenses for the annual report, annual meeting, proxy filings, securities registration
 13 and, other investor relations costs. These costs will be avoided in many cases as they
 14 are purely duplicative.
- 15 Q. HOW WERE THE SAVINGS IN THE AREA OF SHAREHOLDER
 16 SERVICES QUANTIFIED?
 - A. Costs were aligned, by category and compared to determine relative spend. These costs were also separated between fixed and variable levels and assessed across both companies. Duplicative costs, largely fixed, are reduced in following areas: annual report costs, stock transfer/registration fees and annual meeting costs; stock exchange fees and other outside services. Variable administration/postage costs, proxy services, stock transfer / registration fees and annual meeting costs were also reduced to reflect lower required costs and to reflect some overlap of investors. The total estimated

- savings in the area of shareholder services is approximately \$1.8 million in the first 1 year growing with escalation thereafter. 2
- COULD THESE SAVINGS BE ACHIEVED ABSENT A MERGER? 3 Q.
- No. They can only be achieved by consolidating into a single company and thereby A. 4 reducing the need for stand-alone costs to be incurred in the same areas. 5
- **Transportation** 6

- HOW WILL THE MERGER OF THE COMPANIES IMPACT THE 7 Q. EXPENSES INCURRED FOR TRANSPORTATION?
- Savings are achieved by minimizing the costs associated with available aircraft 9 A. leasing and ownership options and optimizing the use of the planes presently 10 employed by the two companies. 11
- HOW WERE THE SAVINGS IN THE AREA OF TRANSPORTATION 12 Q. **QUANTIFIED?** 13
- Savings result from reducing overall aviation costs through reducing the need for total 14 Α. aircraft hours flown across multiple aircraft and maximizing the amount flown across 15 fewer total planes. The use of each of the aircraft maintained by the Companies was 16 reviewed along with the related operating costs. It was assumed that the existing mix 17 of aircraft would be realigned to better optimize use and cost, thus reducing the total 18 cost of ownership or lease. The total estimated savings in the area of transportation is 19 20 estimated at approximately \$0.7 million in the first year and grows with annual escalation thereafter. 21
- COULD THESE SAVINGS BE ACHIEVED ABSENT A MERGER? 22 Q.

| 1 | A. | No. They can only be achieved by consolidating into a single company and thereby |
|---|----|--|
| 2 | | reducing the need for separate aircraft arrangements to be maintained. |

4. Information Technology

4 Q. HOW WILL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SAVINGS ARISE FROM THE

PROPOSED MERGER OF THE COMPANIES?

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A. With the completion of the merger, the separate information technology operations of the Companies will be integrated which will allow the combined stand-alone operating and capital costs to be reduced. This cost reduction will occur from the standardization of the information technology architecture, rationalization of applications and planned projects and consolidation of the underlying infrastructure.

Q. WHAT AREAS ARE EXPECTED TO PROVIDE COST SAVINGS IN THE

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FUNCTION?

Each company utilizes different systems and vendors for the principal applications areas of finance, human resources, supply chain, billing and work management. Rationalizing these individual backbone applications will provide for significant reduction in support and maintenance expenses. With Duke Energy using PeopleSoft and Cinergy using a modified internal system, it is expected that the combined company will adopt the current Duke Energy system, thus reducing applications support costs and the need for continuing upgrades to existing applications for Cinergy. Although no final decisions were made with respect to the complete inventory of applications between the companies, the merger will require that a single, common application in each area, such as work management and billing, be adopted across the business which will yield similar savings.

Additionally, the standardization and consolidation of the infrastructure will enable the number of data centers to be reduced, as well as, the number of servers used to support network computing. It is also expected that the number of workstations and related requirements for software will be reduced as the number of employees is reduced. Similarly, rationalization of the needs of the business will result in additional savings opportunities as the networks can be integrated between the companies, expenditures for communication devices reduced and plans for cellular, paging and other communications can be combined.

9 Q. WHAT ARE THE COMPONENTS OF THE SAVINGS IN THE 10 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AREA?

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Savings that will arise in the information technology area consist of both operation and maintenance expenses and carrying costs associated with either reduced capitalization of related expense or reduced capital expenditure levels. These savings thus reflect the reduced and avoided costs from standardization, rationalization and consolidation. Capital savings reflect that approximately 60% of identified application savings will be capitalized and amount to \$3.5 million in the first year and grow to \$36.1 million by the last year of the five-year period. These savings reflect a five-year amortization of applicable costs related to development and upgrading expenditure avoidance. For the operation and maintenance related expenses, savings are \$12.5 million in the first year and grow to \$36.2 million by the end of the five-year period. The level of savings total related to information technology is estimated at \$16.0 million in the first year growing to \$72.4 million in the fifth year.

Q. COULD THESE SAVINGS BE REALIZED BY THE COMPANIES

WITHOUT THE MERGER?

A.

A. No. There would be no opportunity to integrate the information technology infrastructure and consolidate applications in the absence of the merger. These savings, therefore, would not occur but for the merger.

5. Supply Chain

6 Q. MR. FLAHERTY, PLEASE DISCUSS THE COST SAVINGS THAT CAN BE 7 CREATED THROUGH THE SUPPLY CHAIN.

Combining companies can achieve savings through the centralization of purchasing and inventory functions related to the construction, operation and maintenance of generating plants, service centers, warehouses and headquarters. The greater purchasing power and the relative quantity of both goods and services that can be obtained as a result of the combination of companies provide additional cost savings. With respect to the purchase of goods (*i.e.*, materials and supplies), savings can be realized in the procurement of commodity items, consumable equipment (*e.g.*, conductors, wire, cable), and other equipment for electric utilities. Savings also may be realized from avoiding an initial reorder cycle from certain inventory item sharing. In addition, standardization of system components such as cable, meters, transformers, and conductors for electric utilities can be achieved through a common design process, providing additional savings opportunities.

With respect to the procurement of services, particularly contract services such as engineering, construction and maintenance related services, expenditures can be consolidated through a combination and typically contracted from fewer sources. Cost savings are created by achieving a lower per unit cost for the service provided

due to a broader contract or the repackaging of work into more attractive options to the contractor. This work package realignment and volume purchasing of service is the primary method through which service procurement savings are realized.

a. Materials and Services

PROCUREMENT OF MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES?

5 Q. WHAT ARE THE COST SAVINGS AVAILABLE FROM COMBINED

Procurement savings should result from larger purchasing volumes and the availability of greater purchasing power. Expected annual purchases for 2005 for Duke Power and Duke Energy corporate are estimated at approximately \$300 million, while for similar units of Cinergy it will be approximately \$203 million. Savings were estimated for each of the principal materials operating segments, *e.g.*, transmission and distribution, and represent a reduction in total materials costs from extending strategic sourcing across the broad range of operating categories. This amount was determined based on the experience of other companies, review of certain component per unit costs, management's knowledge of vendors and potential approaches to material standardization and vendor concentration. This strategic sourcing improvement reflects permanent economies of scale through lower unit costs. Total savings in materials and supplies increase from \$10 million in year one to \$19.5 by the end of the five-year period.

20 Q. SHOULD ANY OF THESE AMOUNTS BE CAPITALIZED BY THE

COMPANIES?

Α.

Yes. Approximately 70% of the materials and supplies savings have been allocated to capital accounts based on the combined Company's estimated capitalization rate for

| all materials and supplies. | Once again, | the levelized | fixed | charge r | ate was | s applied | l to |
|------------------------------|----------------|---------------|-------|-----------|---------|-----------|------|
| convert the capital cost red | uctions into r | evenue requir | emen | t savings | 3. | | |

b. Contract Services

A.

Q. WHAT IS THE NATURE OF SAVINGS FROM CONTRACT SERVICES AS A RESULT OF THE MERGER AND HOW WERE THEY QUANTIFIED?

Similar to consolidating materials and supplies purchasing volumes, the combined Company will be able to gain economies of scale from the aggregation of related work activities and increased purchasing power with service providers. Examples of these services include certain engineering, construction and maintenance services.

The savings estimate also is dependent upon future negotiations with contractors and is similar to those estimated in prior transactions and represents purchasing power savings across the broad range of these services. The total Duke Power and Duke Energy corporate contract services for 2005 is expected to be \$758 million, while for similar units of Cinergy they are estimated at \$415 million. The combined Company thus should be able to achieve additional economies of scale and scope from improved sourcing across all their vendors.

Some contract services savings should be considered capital savings. A capitalization rate of 54% was used to allocate contract services expenditures to capital accounts. These savings amounts were then converted to revenue requirements savings using the levelized fixed charge rate. The total estimated annual savings from contract services increase from \$16.9 million in the first year to \$27.8 million by the end of the five-year period.

| 1 | | c. <u>Inventory</u> |
|----|----|--|
| 2 | Q. | PLEASE DESCRIBE THE INVENTORY SAVINGS THAT HAVE BEEN |
| 3 | | IDENTIFIED. |
| 4 | A. | It is anticipated that the Companies will be able to extend their transmission and |
| 5 | | distribution inventory reorder cycle on a one-time basis reflecting the ability to share |
| 6 | | certain portions of inventory and by leveraging the inventory management process |
| 7 | | across the business. Duke Power has estimated 2005 materials and supplies inventory |
| 8 | | (excluding nuclear) of \$287 million while the Cinergy operating companies maintain |
| 9 | | \$106 million in inventory. Partial reduction of these amounts is expected to result in |
| 10 | | \$1.1 million in annual savings which represents the carrying cost associated with the |
| 11 | | reduction in inventory levels. |
| 12 | Q. | COULD THESE SUPPLY CHAIN SAVINGS BE ACHIEVED ABSENT A |
| 13 | | MERGER? |
| 14 | A. | No. These savings are predicated directly on the assumption that there is a merged |
| 15 | | company that has greater purchasing power. |
| 16 | | 6. Coal Supply |
| 17 | Q. | HOW CAN COST SAVINGS BE ACHIEVED IN THE AREA OF COAL |
| 18 | | PROCUREMENT AND WHAT ARE THE ESTIMATED SAVINGS? |
| 19 | A. | Coal supply savings may be realized as a result of a revised strategy for the combined |
| 20 | | entity when pursuing new coal contracts. Duke Power and Cinergy both have a |
| 21 | | number of contracts expiring over the near-term. On a combined basis, the |
| 22 | | Companies will have the opportunity to develop a new supply strategy for coal supply |

that will consider specifications, sourcing, terms and volumes. Coal supply savings

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| 1 | | were estimated based on the differences in current supply source and prices on a |
|----|----|--|
| 2 | | stand-alone basis compared to how the expiring contract volumes could be obtained |
| 3 | | in the future. Steady-state savings in year three are estimated at \$8.3 million, with |
| 4 | | five-year savings totaling \$40.1 million. |
| 5 | Q. | COULD THESE SAVINGS BE ACHIEVED ABSENT A MERGER? |
| 6 | A. | No. These savings are predicated directly on the integration of the coal supply |
| 7 | | requirements planning and sourcing of the Companies which would not be |
| 8 | | accomplished in the absence of the merger. |
| 9 | Q. | ARE THE CATEGORIES OF SAVINGS IN THIS MERGER CONSISTENT |
| 10 | | WITH THOSE TYPICALLY IDENTIFIED IN UTILITY COMBINATIONS? |
| 11 | A. | Yes, they are. There are, however, certain factors unique to this merger that affect the |
| 12 | | nature and level of synergies available. |
| 13 | Q. | PLEASE ELABORATE ON THESE FACTORS. |
| 14 | A. | Several factors typically affect the nature and level of merger synergies expected in |
| 15 | | utility combinations. These include: relative size (of the Companies), relative cost |
| 16 | | position, location, capacity position, organization and management philosophy. |
| 17 | | Certain of these factors affect the quantified merger synergies in this merger: |
| 18 | | • First, there are multiple service territories within Duke Power and the operating |
| 19 | | companies of Cinergy. Overlapping service territories could have provided |
| 20 | | additional savings opportunities e.g., reduction in facilities and sharing of relevant |
| 21 | | proximate resources; |
| 22 | | • Second, membership of the Cinergy operating companies as part of the Midwest |
| 23 | | Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc. ("Midwest ISO"), which |

| 1 | dispatches local generation for its members, largely eliminates the potential |
|----|--|
| 2 | benefits from joint dispatch of the generation fleets; |
| | This is a second of the second |
| 3 | • Third, Cinergy does not own or operate any nuclear plants. Accordingly, there is |
| 4 | no counterpart organization to the almost 4,100 employees dedicated to the |
| 5 | operations of Duke Power's nuclear fleet; |
| 6 | • Fourth, Duke Power is an electric only utility and does not have any gas |
| 7 | distribution operations similar to that of the operating companies of Cinergy, thus |
| 8 | there is no counterpart organization and the almost 450 gas distribution personnel |
| 9 | of Cinergy would be unaffected by the merger; |
| 10 | • Fifth, Duke Power owns and maintains a much larger hydro operating |
| 11 | organization than Cinergy, which means that approximately 200 electric personnel |
| 12 | at Duke Power are largely unaffected by the merger; |
| 13 | • Sixth, the respective organizations are somewhat disparate in size with Duke |
| 14 | Power being approximately 20% larger than Cinergy in the relevant comparable |
| 15 | functions at the corporate, shared services and utility support and operations areas, |
| 16 | and; |
| 17 | • Finally, the Companies have utilized outsourcing in different ways in their |
| 18 | businesses which further reduces the level of affectable staffing. For example, |
| 19 | Cinergy has outsourced approximately 60% of its information technology support |
| 20 | requirements while Duke Energy utilizes in-house personnel and Duke Power has |
| 21 | totally outsourced its meter reading needs while Cinergy performs the majority of |
| 22 | this function in-house. |
| 23 | All of these differences affect the alignment and comparability of the staffing |
| 24 | levels and costs of operations. Accordingly, each of these differences needed to be |
| 25 | considered in determining the potential level of savings opportunities available from |

1 the merger.

A.

Q. HOW DO THE DUKE ENERGY AND CINERGY MERGER COST SAVINGS COMPARE TO THOSE IN OTHER TRANSACTIONS?

The anticipated cost savings from the merger of Duke Energy and Cinergy are within the range identified by other companies in other recent utility mergers. In particular, anticipated position reductions and non-fuel operations and maintenance ("O&M") expense reductions were reviewed -- two categories that provide a useful basis for comparative assessment of relative merger-related cost savings.

The approximate 5.5% position reduction amount for the merger of Duke Energy and Cinergy reflects the estimated total number of position reductions (~1,000) compared to the total number of positions at both companies prior to the initiation of the merger (~18,000 which reflects all the functions of the utilities in place even with no counterpart organization). The 5.5% reduction amount falls below the average reduction figure of 8.3% and is limited by the lack of overlapping operations and certain operating composition differences between the Companies. In particular, none of the field workforce is affected by the combination, *i.e.*, work volumes will not be reduced, thus those positions directly responsible for safety, reliability or service quality will not be reduced as a result of the merger. There is opportunity for consolidating certain back-office utility operations support functions; however, this does not offset the geographic distance which limits the level of potential field related reductions.

Similarly, the non-fuel O&M reductions that will result from the merger are also below the average of the same publicly announced transactions. The differences

| in the relevant resource scale and related spend explained above are the principal |
|--|
| reasons for the disparity between Duke Energy and Cinergy merger O&M cost |
| savings and the average cost savings from other recently proposed utility mergers and |
| would be anticipated based on the specific facts of this transaction. This result is |
| largely driven downward by the significant amount of field related generation, |
| transmission and distribution O&M expense in the denominator that is not affected |
| from this merger. And, the number and scale of functions where no overlap exists, |
| such as nuclear, hydro and gas distribution, further impact the comparison in a |
| downward manner. Although not all of the saving elements found in other prior |
| mergers are available in this transaction the cost savings and cost avoidances related |
| to the merger of Duke Energy and Cinergy reflect those typically found within my |
| previous industry experience. |

VI. COSTS-TO-ACHIEVE AND PRE-MERGER INITIATIVES

- 13 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE APPROACH TO ESTIMATING THE COSTS
- 14 THAT WILL BE INCURRED WITH THE INTEGRATION OF THE TWO
- 15 **COMPANIES.**

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- 16 A. Costs are incurred in all merger transactions from the process of combining the two
- entities and attaining the identified cost savings. These costs reflect out-of-pocket
- cash payments and usually are one-time payouts incurred as a result of the merger.
- 19 Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE PROCESS BY WHICH THE COSTS-TO-ACHIEVE
- 20 WERE ESTIMATED BY THE COMPANIES.
- 21 A. The cost category analysis approach described above that was used to determine
- 22 potential merger savings opportunities areas was also extended to the potential out-of-

pocket costs associated with realizing the savings and closing the transaction. Specific identification of employee related separation cost was undertaken to identify the various elements that could be expected to be incurred. The out-of-pocket costs that will be incurred in merger integration such as, systems integration, regulatory processes, facilities restacking, communication expenses and other miscellaneous expenses also were identified. The methodology used by the Companies to develop the costs-to-achieve estimates was comprehensive, and similar to that used by other companies in estimating such costs.

9 Q. WHAT EXPENSES ARE ESTIMATED TO BE INCURRED TO MERGE THE

COMPANIES?

A.

A.

Costs-to-achieve, before allocation between the regulated and non-regulated segments, are estimated at \$513 million over the five-year period utilized, with the largest portion of these costs (\$443) to be incurred over the first three years beginning in 2005. Certain costs-to-achieve will continue into succeeding years as annual payments will be required for items such as licenses. These cost estimates are consistent with estimates made by companies in other similar prior transactions and reflect differences in scale and scope and the unique circumstances of this merger.

Q. WHAT ARE THE PRIMARY COMPONENTS OF THE COSTS-TO-ACHIEVE THE ESTIMATED MERGER SAVINGS?

The primary components used to estimate costs-to-achieve were separation costs (estimated to cost \$108.3 million), relocation costs (\$10.1 million), retention costs (\$25.0 million), systems integration (\$225.2 million), facilities integration (\$10 million), internal and external communication expenses (\$22.9 million), regulatory

| 1 | | process and compliance costs (\$36.6 million), transition costs (\$22.2 million), |
|---------------------------------|----|--|
| 2 | | Directors' and Officers coverage (\$11.4 million), and transaction costs (\$41.1 |
| 3 | | million). |
| 4 | Q. | PLEASE DESCRIBE THE MEANS THE COMPANIES ANTICIPATE USING |
| 5 | | TO ACHIEVE THE ESTIMATED POSITION REDUCTIONS. |
| 6 | A. | A major component of the merger cost savings is the reduction in work force which is |
| 7 | | primarily due to the elimination of duplicative functions and tasks. These reductions |
| 8 | | are expected by the Companies to be achieved through a variety of means including |
| 9 | | attrition, controlled hiring, work force redeployment, work realignment, and through |
| 10 | | voluntary separation or early retirement. For these targeted separations, out-of-pocket |
| 11 | | costs will be incurred to achieve the total position reductions. |
| 12 | Q. | HOW WAS THE LEVEL OF COSTS-TO-ACHIEVE FOR POSITION |
| 13 | | REDUCTIONS CALCULATED? |
| 14 | A. | The estimate used for the severance package calculation was three weeks of base pay |
| 15 | | per year of service (assuming an average of 14 years), plus eighteen months of health |
| 16 | | benefits from the date of separation. The separation package was applied to average |
| 17 | | salaries in affected groups and reflects approximately one year of salary for |
| 18 | | employees. For displaced executives, standard contract arrangements were utilized |
| 19 | | |
| 20 | | based on years of service and relative compensation levels. |
| | | based on years of service and relative compensation levels. The severance related programs that affect employees and executives are to be |
| 21 | | |
| 2122 | | The severance related programs that affect employees and executives are to be |

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separation costs are estimated at \$108.3 million. An additional amount of \$25.0 million for employee retention has also been identified to secure valuable employees, such as in the information technology area, during the transition period.

4 Q. EXPLAIN HOW RELOCATION COSTS WERE CALCULATED.

A.

A.

To provide for efficient consolidation, certain functional areas will be centralized and thus require employee relocation to a new site. Based on the functional analysis, it was determined that a number of positions possibly would need to be relocated between the headquarters locations at an estimated cost of \$10.1 million. The full cost of the actual relocation package to be offered to eligible positions has not yet been determined, as it ultimately will depend on the number of personnel that will move. The components of a relocation program could include moving expenses, house hunting costs, cost of living differentials, and closing costs. These cost estimates are consistent with estimates made by companies in prior similar transactions.

15 Q. EXPLAIN HOW SYSTEMS CONSOLIDATION AND TELE-16 COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKING COSTS WERE CALCULATED.

Significant effort will be expended by the Companies in integrating the information technology and services functions of the Companies. A principal element of these costs will relate to integrating the diverse applications of the Companies. In addition, the voice, data and video networks will also need to be integrated through expanded telecommunications capabilities, the data centers will be consolidated and elements of the network such as servers will be rescaled to meet the needs of the business.

Given the very different technology environments and back-bone applications within each company, substantial effort will be made to align platforms, rationalize vendors and reduce overlap. Particularly, the areas of converting to Duke Energy's PeopleSoft system and moving to a common billing system will require focused attention and dedicated expenditure.

A.

Integration costs for these areas were estimated at \$225.2 million over the five-year period with some continuing costs thereafter. These cost estimates cover contract programming, hardware change out and conversion, increased T-1 capacity, and outside assistance and reflect scale, complexity, and platform differences. These expenses associated with systems and communications integration are expected to principally be incurred in 2006 and 2007, but will carry through the full period to reflect additional hardware lease costs and licenses.

Q. CAN YOU DESCRIBE THE REGULATORY PROCESS AND COMPLIANCE COSTS-TO-ACHIEVE RELATED TO THE MERGER?

To successfully complete the merger, certain costs will be incurred for preparation and pursuit of regulatory filings, such as those related to The Securities and Exchange Commission, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Department of Justice filings and the merger cases before the various state regulatory jurisdictions. In addition, certain costs were incurred to satisfy expanded compliance and fiduciary requirements, such as in due diligence. These costs will include professional services for legal, tax, accounting and consulting assistance and certain other filing related costs and fees. Regulatory process costs are estimated at \$36.6 million.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE ESTIMATED INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS COSTS-TO-ACHIEVE.

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Communication expenses will arise from the need to disseminate merger information to the various stakeholders of the individual organizations and combined company. Informational brochures will be sent to employees, shareholders, rating agencies, and state and federal commissions to explain the specifics of the merger. The various vendors, supplier and contractors will also receive communications that addresses the merger and the manner in which contacts and business arrangements will be conducted. Additional costs will be incurred with respect to changing related infrastructure elements such as signage. These expenditures are estimated to cost \$22.9 million.

12 Q. WHAT IS THE NATURE OF THE TRANSITION COSTS TO ACHIEVE?

13 A. These costs capture the out-of-pocket travel costs of internal employees groups in
14 accomplishing the integration and relate to air, lodging and per diem expense.
15 Additional support costs from third-parties for consulting assistance through this
16 process are also reflected in this category. These costs are estimated at \$22.2 million.

17 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE DIRECTOR AND OFFICERS COVERAGE.

With separation from the Companies, an ongoing level of insurance expense will be incurred on behalf of the departing directors and officers. This expense is necessary to provide adequate coverage to these individuals in the event of subsequent litigation to which they could become a party in view of their previous position with the Companies. These amounts have been estimated at \$11.4 million and reflect a one-time premium incurrence.

| 1 | Q. | WHAT TYPE OF FACILITIES COSTS WILL BE INCURRED WITH |
|----|----|---|
| 2 | | RESPECT TO THE TRANSACTION? |
| 3 | A. | The reduction in total staffing will free-up a certain amount of square footage |
| 4 | | currently utilized by the Companies. These incurred costs relate to the restacking of |
| 5 | | floor space to accommodate a different amount of total employees, by location, and |
| 6 | | cover related moves, refurbishment, construction and other leasehold improvements. |
| 7 | | These costs have been estimated at \$10 million to realign the separate corporate |
| 8 | | facilities maintained by the Companies. |
| 9 | Q. | PLEASE EXPLAIN THE TRANSACTION COST COMPONENT INCLUDED |
| 10 | | WITHIN THE TOTAL COSTS-TO-ACHIEVE. |
| 11 | A. | Transaction costs include amounts paid to the investment banks for assistance with |
| 12 | | certain aspects of the merger. These costs specifically relate to fees paid for |
| 13 | | assistance in transaction structuring and negotiation and the provision of a fairness |
| 14 | | opinion to satisfy the needs of the Boards of Directors. Total transaction fees are |
| 15 | | estimated at \$41.1 million for the above categories. |
| 16 | Q. | PLEASE DESCRIBE THE APPROACH USED TO QUANTIFY THE PRE- |
| 17 | | MERGER INITIATIVES OVERLAP ADJUSTMENT INCLUDED AS PART |
| 18 | | OF THE NET MERGER SAVINGS QUANTIFICATION? |
| 19 | A. | Discussions with company management led to the identification of certain specific and |
| 20 | | existing cost reduction programs within Cinergy that needed to be recognized to avoid |
| 21 | | double-counting in the synergies estimation process. The Cinergy cost reduction |
| 22 | | program, CIN-10, estimated savings of \$44 million in 2005 and an additional \$25 |
| 23 | | million in 2006. These implied cost reductions could be achieved in a variety of |

means, such as through process improvement, reengineering, outsourcing, work elimination or contractor management; however, it was assumed that each individual business unit, such as corporate, shared services, delivery, fossil and nuclear would realize a pro-rata share of these reductions through a combination of the above methods. To avoid potential duplication with merger-related savings and CIN-10 program savings, I reduced the total merger-related savings to reflect any potential overlap with potential CIN-10 initiatives. Although Duke Energy is continuously working to control costs, no adjustments for specific initiatives were identified to avoid potential double-counting of these programs with respect to the identified merger cost savings.

11 Q. HOW WAS THIS DECLINE RELATED TO THE MERGER SAVINGS?

A.

Total estimated O&M savings in year five are \$248 million, or 7.3% of the forecasted year five O&M. This amount was assumed to apply across the various operating entities that contributed to the overall savings on a weighted basis reflecting their relative cost levels. Accordingly, the total cost savings were reduced to reflect the assumption that some of the planned cost reductions of Cinergy would affect the starting cost baseline for the synergies analysis. In effect, the planned cost reduction initiative of Cinergy is assumed to overlap at the same level as the identified merger savings affect the initial baseline. This reflects the fact that the planned cost reduction of Cinergy applied to a broader cost base than was affected by the merger, e.g., customer service offices. As a result of this calculation, I assumed that there would be overlap between the merger-related savings and CIN-10 initiatives in proportion to the merger savings impact on the total cost baseline, or \$1.9 million in

| 1 | | the first year and growing to roughly \$2.1 million by the last year of the quantification |
|----|----|--|
| 2 | | period. |
| 3 | Q. | WHAT IS THE RESULTING PRE-MERGER INITIATIVES OVERLAP |
| 4 | | ADJUSTMENT TO THE MERGER SAVINGS BASED ON THE |
| 5 | | METHODOLOGY JUST DESCRIBED? |
| 6 | A. | Based on this approach, we have adjusted the five year merger savings downward by |
| 7 | | \$10 million over five years to reflect the estimated overlap between the merger |
| 8 | | savings and Cinergy's stand alone planned cost reduction programs associated with |
| 9 | | CIN-10. |
| | | VII. <u>CONCLUSION</u> |
| 10 | Q. | BASED UPON YOUR EXPERIENCE ARE THE SAVINGS IDENTIFIED BY |
| 11 | | THE COMPANIES ATTAINABLE ? |
| 12 | A. | Yes. Based upon my experience with other mergers and upon my interaction with |
| 13 | | executives and middle management at both Companies the methodology used to |
| 14 | | estimate potential savings is consistent with that usually adopted by other companies |
| 15 | | in similar situations. The cost savings and costs-to-achieve that have been identified |
| 16 | | are reasonably attainable provided that the management of the companies integrate |
| 17 | | operations in a manner consistent with their plans and with similar processes used by |
| 18 | | other companies in similar transactions. |
| 19 | Q. | WERE ATTACHMENTS TJF-1 THROUGH TJF-3 PREPARED BY YOU OR |
| 20 | | UNDER YOUR SUPERVISION? |
| 21 | A. | Yes, they were. |

DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY?

22

Q.

1 A. Yes, it does.

VERIFICATION

| State of Texas |) | |
|-------------------------|---|-----|
| |) | SS: |
| County of Dallas |) | |

The undersigned, Thomas J. Flaherty, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the Senior Vice President, Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc., and that the matters set forth in the foregoing testimony are true and correct to the best of his information, knowledge and belief.

Thomas J. Flaherty, Affiant

Subscribed and sworn to before me by Thomas J. Flaherty on this 27^{th} day of June, 2005.

OTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: 9-19-07

EXHIBIT TJF 1: SUMMARY OF REGULATED UTILITY EXPERIENCE

Alaska Public Utilities Commission

- Anchorage Sewer Utility

Arizona Corporation Commission

- U S WEST Communications - Docket No. E-1051-88-146

Arkansas Public Service Commission

- FPL Group, Entergy Corporation, WCB Holding corp. and Entergy Arkansas, Inc. - Docket No. 00-329U

Beaumont, Texas

Entex, Inc.

- Gulf States Utilities Company

California Public Utilities Commission

- The Washington Water Power Company and Sierra Pacific Power Company - Application No. 94-08-043

- Pacific Enterprises and ENOVA Corporation - Application No. A-96-10-038

Clark County

- Washington Public Power Supply

District of Columbia, Public Service Commissions

Baltimore Gas and Electric Company and Potomac Electric Power Company - Formal Case No. 951

Colorado Public Utilities Commission

Public Service Company of Colorado and Southwestern Public Service Company - Docket No. 95A-513EG Delaware Public Service Commission

Atlantic City Electric Company and Delmarva Power & Light Company - Docket No. 97-65

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

- Baltimore Gas and Electric Company and Potomac Electric Power Company Docket No. EC96-10-000
- IES Utilities Inc., Interstate Power Company, Wisconsin Power & Light Company, South Beloit Water, Gas & Electric Company, Heartland Energy Services and Industrial Energy Applications, Inc. - Docket No. EC96-13-000
 - Frans-Alaska Pipeline System Docket No. OR78-1
- Middle South Energy, Inc. Docket No. ER-82-483-000
- Middle South Energy, Inc. Docket No. ER-82-616-000
- Kansas Power and Light Company and Kansas Gas and Electric Company Docket No. EC91-2-000
- Southwestern Public Service Company and Public Service Company of Colorado Docket No. EC96-2-000 The Washington Water Power Company and Sierra Pacific Power Company - Docket No. EC94-23-000
- Northern States Power Company and Wisconsin Energy Corporation Docket Nos. EC95-16-000 and ER95-1357-000
 - Midwest Power Systems Inc. and Iowa-Illinois Gas and Electric Company EC95-4
- Ohio Edison Company, Pennsylvania Power Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, and The Toledo Edison Company - ER97-412-000
 - Atlantic City Electric Company and Delmarva Power & Light Company EC97-7
 - Union Electric and Central Illinois Public Service Company EC-96-7-000

Federal Power Commission

Organization and Operations Review

Florida Public Service Commission

Florida Power & Light Company and Entergy Corporation - Docket No. 001148

Garland, Texas

- . General Telephone Company of the Southwest
- Lone Star Gas Company

Georgia Public Service Commission

Georgia Power Company - Docket No. 3673-U

Houston, Texas

- Houston Lighting & Power Company

Idaho Public Utilities Commission

The Washington Water Power Company and Sierra Pacific Power Company - Case Nos. WWP-E-94-7 and WWP-G-94-4

Illinois Commerce Commission

- . Illinois Power Docket No. 84-0055
- Iowa-Illinois Gas and Electric Company and Mid-American Company Energy Docket No. 94-0439
- Central Illinois Public Service Company, CIPSCO Incorporated and Union Electric Company Docket No. 95-0551

Iowa Utilities Board

- Midwest Resources Inc., Midwest Power Systems Inc. and Iowa-Illinois Gas and Electric Company Docket No. SPU-94-14
 - IES Industries Inc., Interstate Power Company, WPL Holdings, Inc. Docket No. SPU-96-6

Iowa Electric Light and Power

Organization and Operations Review

Kansas Corporation Commission

- Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Docket Nos. 117,220-U and 123,773-U
 - Kansas Gas & Electric Docket No. 120,924-U
- Kansas Power and Light Company and Kansas Gas and Electric Company Docket No. 174,155-U
 - Western Resources and Kansas City Power and Light Docket No. 190,362-U

Western Resources, Inc. and Kansas City Power and Light - Docket No. 97-WSRE-676-MER

Kentucky Public Service Commission

- Louisville Gas & Electric Company Case Nos. 5982, 6220, 7799, 8284, 8616 and 8924
 - South Central Bell Telephone Company Case Nos. 6848, 7774 and 8150
 - Kentucky-American Water Company Case No. 8571

Louisiana Public Service Commission

- American Electric Power Company, Inc., Southwestern Electric Power Company and Central and South West Corporation -Docket No. U-23327
 - Entergy Louisana, Inc. and Entergy Gulf States, Inc. Merger with FPL Group, Inc. Docket No. U-25354

Maryland, Public Service Commission of

Baltimore Gas and Electric Company and Potomac Electric Power Company - Order No. 73405, Case No. 8725

Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy

Boston Edison, Cambridge Electric Light Company, Commonwealth Electric Company and Commonwealth Gas Company Docket D.T.E. 99-19

Michigan Public Service Commission

Wisconsin Electric Power Company and Northern States Power Company - Case No. U-10913

Minnesota Public Service Commission

- Continental Telephone Company Docket No. PR-121-1
- Northern States Power Company Docket No. E002/GR-89-865
- Northern States Power Company and Wisconsin Energy Corporation Docket No. E,G002/PA-95-500

Mississippi Public Service Commission

- Mississippi Power & Light Company Docket No. U-4285
- Entergy Mississippi, Inc., Entergy Corporation, FPL Group, Inc. and WCB Holding Corporation Docket No. 2000-UA-925

Missouri Public Service Commission

- . Union Electric Company Case Nos. ER-84-168 and EO-85-17
- Union Electric Company and Central Illinois Public Service Company Case No. EM-96-149
 - Kansas City Power & Light Company Case Nos. ER-85-128 and EO-85-185
- Kansas Power and Light Company and Kansas Gas and Electric Company Case No. EM-91-213
 - Southwestern Bell Telephone Case No. TC-93-224
- Western Resources and Kansas City Power and Light EM 97-515

Nevada Public Service Commission

- Bell Telephone Company of Nevada Docket No. 425
 - Central Telephone Company Docket No. 91-7026
- The Washington Water Power Company and Sierra Pacific Power Company Docket No. 94-8024

New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

Atlantic City Electric Company and Delmarva Power & Light Company - Docket No. EM-97-020103

New Mexico Public Service Commission

- . Public Service Company of New Mexico
- Southwestern Public Service Company and Public Service Company of Colorado Case No. 2678

New Mexico State Corporation Commission

- Continental Telephone of the West Docket No. 942
- General Telephone Company of the Southwest Docket Nos. 937 and 990
- Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company Docket Nos. 943, 1052 and 1142
 - U S WEST Communications Docket No. 92-227-TC

New Orleans, Louisiana

. New Orleans Public Service Company

New York, State of, Public Service Commission

Long Island Lighting Company and Brooklyn Union Gas Company - Case 95-G-0761

Ohio Public Utilities Commission

- Ohio Bell Telephone Company Case No. 79-1184-TP-AIR
- Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company

Oklahoma Corporation Commission

- Organization and Operations Review
- Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Cause No. 26755
- Public Service Company of Oklahoma Cause Nos. 27068 and 27639
- Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Cause No. 000662
- American Electric Power Company, Inc., Public Service Company of Oklahoma and Central and South West Corporation -Cause No. PUD-980000444

Oregon, Public Utility Commission of

- Pacific Power and Light Company Revenue Requirements Study
- Portland General Electric Company Revenue Requirements Study
- The Washington Water Power Company and Sierra Pacific Power Company Docket No. UM-696

Riverside, City of

San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station

Sherman, Texas

General Telephone Company of the Southwest

Tennessee Public Service Commission

United Inter-Mountain Telephone Company - Docket Nos. U-6640, U-6988 and U-7117

Texas Attorney General

- Southwestern Bell Telephone Company

Texas, Public Utility Commission of

- Texas Power & Light Company Docket Nos. 178 and 3006
- Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Docket Nos. 2672, 3340, 4545 and 8585
 - Houston Lighting & Power Company Docket Nos. 2448, 5779 and 6668
 - Lower Colorado River Authority Docket No. 2503
- Gulf States Utilities Company Docket No. 2677
- General Telephone Company of the Southwest Docket Nos. 3094, 3690 and 5610
- Central Telephone Company Docket No. 9981
- Southwestern Public Service Company and Public Service Company of Colorado Docket No. 14980
 - FPL Group, Inc. and Entergy Corporation Docket No. 23335
 - Reliant Energy HL&P Docket No. 22355

Utah Public Service Commission

- Utah Power and Light Company - Docket No. 76-035-06

Vermont Public Service Board

New England Telephone and Telegraph Company - Docket Nos. 3806 and 4546

Waco, Texas

- Texas Power & Light Company

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission

- The Washington Water Power Company and Sierra Pacific Power Company Docket No. UE-94-1053 and UE-94-1054
 - Puget Sound Power and Light Company and Washington Natural Gas Company UE-960195

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

D.C. Transit

Wisconsin Public Service Commission

Northern States Power Company and Wisconsin Energy Corporation – 6630-UM-100 and 4220-UM-101

WPL Holdings, IES Industries Inc., Interstate Power Company, Inc. - Docket No. 6680-UM-100

Wyoming Public Service Commission

- Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power Company (Southwestern Public Service Company and Public Service Company of Colorado) -Docket Nos. 20003-EA-95-40 and 30005-GA-95-39
 - Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company Docket No. 9343, Subs. 5 and 9
 - Organization and Operations Review
- Pacific Power and Light Company Docket No. 9454, Sub. 11

Overall Cost Savings

5 Year Total Potential Savings Summary (O&M/Revenue Requirements) (Before Allocation)

| Potential Areas (\$ in 000s) | Year 1 2006 | Year 2 2007 | Year 3 2008 | Year 4 2009 | Year 5 2010 | Five-year Total |
|---------------------------------------|--|----------------|--|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Regulated and Corporate | | | | | | |
| Staffing | \$46.434 | \$69.270 | \$78.965 | \$82,854 | \$86,915 | \$364,438 |
| Corporate | \$12.981 | \$26.884 | \$31,346 | \$34,050 | \$36,873 | \$142,134 |
| Total | \$59,415 | 896,154 | \$110,311 | \$116,904 | \$123,788 | \$506,572 |
| Corrorate & Administrative Programs | | | A second | | | |
| Administrative & General Overhead | \$5.466 | \$7,916 | \$8,975 | \$9,183 | \$9,396 | \$40,937 |
| A sociation Dues | \$746 | \$763 | \$781 | 8199 | 8817 | \$3,906 |
| Renefits | 80 | \$8,128 | \$8,862 | \$9,662 | \$10,534 | \$37,186 |
| Directors' Fees | \$795 | \$813 | \$832 | \$851 | \$871 | \$4,163 |
| Facilities | \$3,113 | \$4,508 | \$5,112 | \$5,230 | \$5,351 | \$23.315 |
| Insurance | \$5,548 | \$5,676 | \$5,808 | \$5,943 | \$6,081 | \$29,055 |
| Inventory | \$2,145 | \$1,090 | \$1,090 | \$1,090 | \$1,090 | 86,505 |
| Drofessional Services | \$40.238 | \$42,009 | \$43,857 | \$45,787 | \$47,801 | \$219,692 |
| Shareholder Services | \$1,805 | \$1,847 | \$1,890 | \$1,934 | \$1,979 | \$9,456 |
| Transportation | \$738 | \$755 | \$772 | \$790 | \$808 | \$3,863 |
| Total | \$60,594 | \$73,506 | 616,778 | \$81,269 | \$84,730 | \$378,077 |
| Information Technology | | | | 000000 | 071 700 | \$02.246 |
| Information Technology (Capital) | \$3,464 | \$9,223 | \$17,317 | \$26,092 | 536,149 | \$32,240 |
| Information Technology (O&M) | \$12,548 | \$19,666 | 770,/0/ | 322,040 | 747000 | 210,010 |
| Total | \$16,011 | \$28,889 | S44,084 | \$58,937 | \$72,396 | 3220,318 |
| Supply Chain | - Administration of Administra | | | , CO - CO | 100 000 | £111 A82 |
| Contract Services | \$16,917 | \$19,545 | \$22,234 | \$24,986 | \$27,001 | \$73,477 |
| M&S Purchases Total | \$9,972 | \$31,824 | \$36,875 | \$42,043 | \$47,330 | \$184,960 |
| | | | | | | |
| Fuel | 266 9\$ | \$7.642 | \$8,296 | \$8,489 | \$8,686 | \$40,106 |
| Coal | \$6,992 | \$7,642 | \$8,296 | \$8,489 | 989'88 | \$40,106 |
| Cross Cornerate and Regulated Savings | \$169.901 | \$238,016 | \$277,546 | \$307,642 | \$336,929 | \$1,330,034 |
| GIOSS Culpulate and Angulated Same | | | The state of the s | | | |

Costs to Achieve Elements

| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Five-year Total |
|--|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------|
| Costs-to-Achieve | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | |
| Separation Costs | \$67,552 | \$31,761 | \$8,945 | 80 | 80 | \$108,259 |
| Retention Costs | \$12,500 | \$12,500 | 80 | 80 | 80 | \$25,000 |
| Relocation Costs | \$5,063 | \$5,063 | 80 | 80 | 80 | \$10,125 |
| System Integration Costs | \$39,755 | \$66,577 | \$49,383 | \$34,723 | \$34,744 | \$225,182 |
| Directors & Officers Liability Tail Coverage | \$11,400 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | \$11,400 |
| Regulatory Process Costs | \$36,578 | 80 | 80 | \$0 | 80 | \$36,578 |
| Facilities Integration | \$5,000 | \$5,000 | 80 | 80 | 80 | \$10,000 |
| Internal / External Communications | \$22,850 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | \$22,850 |
| Transition Costs | \$18,862 | \$3,329 | 80 | \$0 | 80 | \$22,191 |
| Transaction Cost | \$41,100 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | \$41,100 |
| Total | (\$260,660) | (\$124,229) | (\$58,328) | (\$34,723) | (\$34,744) | (\$512,684) |

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

| In the Matter of: | | | | |
|--|--|---------------------|--|--|
| Joint Application of Duke Energy Corporation, Duke Energy Holding Corp., Deer Acquisition Corp., Cougar Acquisition Corp., Cinergy Corp., The Cincinnati Gas & Electric Company, and The Union Light, Heat and Power Company for Approval of a Transfer and Acquisition of Control | | Case No. 2005-00228 | | |
| DIRECT TESTIMONY OF | | | | |
| GREGORY C. FICKE | | | | |
| ON BEHALF OF | | | | |
| JOINT APPLICANTS | | | | |

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| ATTA | ACHMENT GCF-2 - | Detailed Description of Transaction | | |

I. <u>INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE</u>

- 1 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.
- 2 A. My name is Gregory C. Ficke, and my business address is 139 East Fourth Street,
- 3 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.
- 4 Q. WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT POSITION?
- 5 A. I am Vice President of Cinergy Services, Inc. ("Cinergy Services"), President of
- The Union Light, Heat and Power Company ("ULH&P"), and President of The
- 7 Cincinnati Gas & Electric Company ("CG&E"), both subsidiaries of Cinergy
- 8 Corp. ("Cinergy"). I also serve on CG&E's and ULH&P's Board of Directors,
- 9 and on the Board of Cinergy Foundation.
- 10 Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL
- 11 **QUALIFICATIONS.**
- 12 A. I received a Bachelor of Science degree in physics from Miami University, a
- Master of Science degree in engineering from Ohio State University, a Master of
- Business Administration degree in finance from the University of Cincinnati, and
- a Juris Doctorate degree from Salmon P. Chase College of Law at Northern
- 16 Kentucky University. I am a registered professional engineer and a member of
- 17 the Ohio Bar. I have also completed various management development programs,
- including the Advanced Management Program at Harvard University Business
- School. I have held various management positions since joining CG&E in 1977,
- 20 including General Manager Environmental Services, Vice President Gas
- Operations, and Vice President and Chief Information Officer for Cinergy Corp.'s
- 22 Regulated Businesses Unit.

Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS PRESIDENT OF ULH&P.

I am a member of Cinergy's executive management team, with whom I share 3 A. responsibility for the overall direction and strategy of ULH&P. As President of 4 ULH&P, I am charged with ensuring that gas and electricity are reliably supplied 5 to ULH&P's customers at reasonable costs. Additionally, I share responsibility 6 for regulatory and financial planning for ULH&P, including achieving timely 7 recovery of expenditures made to provide service to ULH&P's customers, and 8 achieving reasonable returns on such expenditures. Finally, I also have primary 9 responsibility for ULH&P's customer, community, economic development, 10 regulatory, and governmental relations. 11

Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS PROCEEDING?

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A.

My testimony focuses generally on how the impending merger of Duke Energy Corporation ("Duke Energy") and Cinergy will affect ULH&P and its customers. I focus on the key areas of: (1) reliability and safety; (2) customer service; (3) merger-related cost savings / rate impacts; (4) financial integrity; (5) economic development; (6) charitable giving; and (7) environmental stewardship. Several of these areas are discussed in more detail in the testimony of other witnesses as noted herein. My testimony also provides an overview of the affiliate transactions that ULH&P is filing with the Commission. Finally, I sponsor a list of commitments ULH&P is willing to make in connection with this merger, which I provide at Attachment GCF-1. These proposed merger commitments, as well as

other commitments proposed by various witnesses in this case (including a commitment to share net merger savings with consumers upfront) are virtually identical to proposals being made by ULH&P's utility affiliates in Ohio and Kentucky. In addition, I have attached as Attachment GCF-2 a detailed description of the Cinergy / Duke Energy merger transaction.

II. OVERVIEW OF CINERGY'S AND ULH&P'S STRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS

6 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE ULH&P'S RELATIONSHIP TO CINERGY.

A.

ULH&P is a wholly-owned subsidiary of CG&E, which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Cinergy. Cinergy was formed in 1994 by the merger of CG&E and PSI Resources, Inc., the former parent company of PSI Energy, Inc. ("PSI"). Cinergy, CG&E and ULH&P are headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio. CG&E provides electric and gas utility service in the Cincinnati metropolitan area. PSI, ULH&P's affiliate, provides electric utility service throughout a large portion of Indiana and is headquartered in Plainfield, Indiana.

Cinergy is a registered public utility holding company under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 ("PUHCA"). Cinergy maintains a service company, Cinergy Services, Inc., which provides Cinergy's subsidiaries, including ULH&P, with a variety of centralized administrative, management, and support services, under a Service Agreement.

19 Q. HOW WILL THIS STRUCTURE CHANGE WITH THE MERGER OF 20 DUKE ENERGY AND CINERGY?

A. ULH&P will continue to exist as a separate and distinct Kentucky corporation and public utility company subsidiary of CG&E. However, Cinergy and Duke Energy

| l | will become part of a new holding company to be named Duke Energy |
|---|--|
| 2 | Corporation ("New Duke Energy"). ULH&P's new, larger ultimate parent |
| 3 | company will have a broader knowledge base and an increased number of |
| 4 | employees corporate-wide, which will have a positive impact on ULH&P and its |
| 5 | customers, employees and the communities it serves. |

6 Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE RECENT LEGISLATIVE CHANGES RELATED TO PUHCA.

A.

I understand that both the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives have passed a comprehensive Energy Bill which is expected to be signed into law by the President. Among other things, the Energy Bill provides for the repeal of PUHCA six months after enactment. As such, the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") will no longer have regulatory authority over public utility holding company systems like Cinergy and the New Duke Energy, and the companies do not intend to file for SEC approval of the merger under PUHCA. Despite PUHCA's repeal, ULH&P still plans on entering into service agreements and other affiliate agreements that would have been subject to SEC approval but for the repeal of PUHCA, as described later in my testimony. Moreover, as described in the testimony of Ms. Wendy L. Aumiller, despite the repeal of PUHCA, ULH&P is proposing a number of commitments to assure the continued financial integrity of ULH&P.

Q. WILL THE MERGER AFFECT THIS COMMISSION'S ABILITY TO REGULATE ULH&P?

| 23 | | SYSTEM AND OPERATIONS. |
|----|----|--|
| 22 | Q. | PLEASE DESCRIBE ULH&P'S GAS AND ELECTRIC UTILITY |
| 21 | | service, and sustainability and environmental stewardship. |
| 20 | | stakeholders, providing reliable, cost effective and efficient utility and customer |
| 19 | | very similar to Cinergy's, including similar views on issues such as valuing all |
| 18 | | of the merger. Further, Duke Energy has goals and a corporate culture that are |
| 17 | | foresee any significant management changes within CG&E or ULH&P as a result |
| 16 | | Mr. James E. Rogers will be the CEO of the New Duke Energy, and we do not |
| 15 | | Importantly, ULH&P's mission will not change as a result of the merger. |
| 14 | | benefit of our stakeholders. |
| 13 | | these goals through careful and purposeful stewardship of our business, for the |
| 12 | | employer of choice, and a leader by choice. And we are committed to achieving |
| 11 | | We strive to be the energy supplier of choice, the investment of choice, the |
| 10 | | environmentally responsible in how we go about our business. |
| 9 | | positively impact the many Northern Kentucky communities we serve; and to be |
| 8 | | provide a challenging, rewarding, and safe workplace for our employees; to |
| 7 | | and electric service at reasonable prices; to earn a fair return for our investors; to |
| 6 | A. | Our mission is to provide our customers with safe, reliable and high quality gas |
| 5 | | AFFECTED BY THE MERGER. |
| 4 | Q. | PLEASE DESCRIBE ULH&P'S MISSION AND WHETHER IT WILL BE |
| 3 | | Regulatory Commission ("FERC"). |
| 2 | | it is today. ULH&P will also continue to be regulated by the Federal Energy |
| 1 | A. | No. ULH&P will continue to be regulated by this Commission to the same extent |
| 1 | ٨ | No. 111 11 & D will continue to be regulated by this Commission to the same extent |

1 A. ULH&P purchases, sells, stores and transports natural gas in Boone, Campbell,
2 Gallatin, Grant, Kenton and Pendleton Counties, Kentucky. ULH&P also
3 purchases electricity, which it distributes and sells in Boone, Campbell, Grant,
4 Kenton and Pendleton Counties, Kentucky. ULH&P serves approximately
5 145,000 retail gas and electric customers and its service territory for electricity,
6 gas, or both, covers approximately 2,171 square miles.

CG&E is in the process of transferring 1,105 megawatts of generating capacity to ULH&P, consisting of CG&E's 69% share of East Bend No. 2, a 648 MW base load, coal-fired generating unit located in Rabbit Hash, Kentucky, Miami Fort No. 6, a 168 MW intermediate load, coal-fired generating unit located in North Bend, Ohio, and the 490 MW Woodsdale Generating Station, consisting of six peak load, gas or propane-fired generating units located in Trenton, Ohio. This Commission and the FERC have approved the transfer, and ULH&P is waiting for approval from the SEC. ULH&P plans for the closing to occur effective October 1, 2005. Additionally, ULH&P has an office and customer service center in Newport, Kentucky; operational facilities in Covington and Florence, Kentucky; a propane storage facility in Erlanger, Kentucky; and various facilities in Cincinnati, Ohio.

- 19 Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THE MERGER OF CINERGY AND DUKE
 20 ENERGY WILL AFFECT ULH&P'S OPERATIONS AND
 21 MANAGEMENT.
- 22 A. ULH&P's utility operations are not expected to be substantially impacted by the merger. However, some limited job reductions will be necessary to achieve more

| efficient, lower cost operations. As explained in the testimony of Mr. Thomas J. |
|--|
| Flaherty, about half of the benefits of the merger relate to consolidation of Duke |
| Energy's and Cinergy's non-regulated operations and the allocable portion of |
| their corporate and shared services organizations. Of the benefits that will flow to |
| utility operations, cost savings are expected through the consolidation of |
| corporate and headquarters functions, utility support functions, corporate and |
| administrative programs, information technology, supply chain and some fue |
| savings. |

Because Duke Energy's electric utility company, Duke Power, is not located adjacent to ULH&P's electric service territory (as PSI's service territory is adjacent to CG&E's), the merger will not create much duplication of field service employees responsible for the day-to-day operations of ULH&P's generation, transmission, distribution and customer service functions. As a result, ULH&P does not expect major utility operational changes due to the merger and the expected labor reductions will not negatively affect customer service or reliability functions.

The merger will have no impact on ULH&P's status as a Kentucky corporation, with its own board of directors, president and other corporate officers.

- Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THE MERGER OF CINERGY AND DUKE
 ENERGY WILL AFFECT ULH&P'S LOCAL PRESENCE.
- 22 A. ULH&P will maintain a local presence throughout its Northern Kentucky service 23 territory. ULH&P's corporate headquarters will remain in Cincinnati, Ohio, and

ULH&P will maintain a presence in Northern Kentucky through various field customer service and operational offices. The merger savings calculated by Mr. Thomas J. Flaherty did not assume any local field customer service or operational office closings. Below, I discuss ULH&P's continuing commitment to economic development and charitable giving. The merger will not have an adverse impact on ULH&P's local presence in Northern Kentucky.

A.

III. RELIABILITY AND SAFETY

7 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW THE MERGER WILL IMPACT ULH&P'S
8 RELIABILITY OF SERVICE AND SAFETY.

ULH&P is and will remain committed to providing reliable gas and electric service. The testimony of Mr. John C. Procario describes how ULH&P has consistently proven its commitment to reliable gas and electric service in the past. For instance, ULH&P has consistently excelled in the region for emergency planning and service restoration after major storms and Cinergy won the Edison Electric Institute's Emergency Assistance award in 2004. Likewise, Duke Energy, through Duke Power, is committed to providing reliable electric utility service to its customers in the Carolinas. In 2004, the Catawba Nuclear Station set a new company reliability record, operating for 531 continuous days, and was recognized by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for safe operations. Duke Power is a two-time winner of the Edison Electric Institute's Emergency Response award, winning in 2003 for outstanding efforts regarding a massive ice storm affecting almost all of Duke Power's service territory. It is clear that Duke

Energy, like ULH&P, knows that efforts like these are the first priorities for an energy provider, as described further in the testimony of Mr. Richard J. Osborne.

Q.

A.

This shared commitment to providing reliable service leads me to conclude that reliability will continue to be a top priority for the merged company.

As Mr. Procario explains, the changes expected from the merger will not adversely impact reliability.

Finally, Mr. Procario discusses how the ULH&P has committed to report its reliability scores to the Commission following the merger. Therefore, the Commission will be able to review these reports to assure itself of ULH&P's continued commitment to reliable service. ULH&P's commitment to continued reliability will remain a top priority for the New Duke Energy. Likewise, Cinergy and Duke Energy are both committed to providing safe electric and gas service to customers and employees. That focus will not change as a result of the merger.

IV. CUSTOMER SERVICE

OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND CUSTOMER SATISFACTION?

Our goals are to deliver dependable and efficient electric utility service at reasonable prices, and to provide our customers with accessible and convenient customer service options while maintaining low costs. Our continuing challenge is to be one of the few gas and electric utility companies that achieves operational excellence in terms of service and reliability, with highly satisfied customers,

WHAT ARE ULH&P'S GOALS WITH RESPECT TO UTILITY

while also managing to keep our costs and rates low.

| 1 | Q. | HOW HAS ULH&P PERFORMED IN TERMS OF PROVIDING HIGH |
|----------|----|--|
| 2 | | QUALITY CUSTOMER SERVICE? |
| 3 | A. | By all indications, ULH&P's performance in customer service is strong. ULH&P |
| 4 | | has a history of providing excellent service across its various customer groups and |
| 5 | | has received acknowledgment from several independent entities concerning this |
| 6 | | performance. Examples of this recognition provided to Cinergy and ULH&P |
| 7 | | include: |
| 8 | | • The first energy company in the nation to be recognized as a J.D. Power |
| 9 10 | | and Associates Certified Call Center for providing "An Outstanding Customer Service Experience." |
| 11 | | • According to the J. D. Power electric and gas utility residential customer |
| 12 | | satisfaction studies, Cinergy's performance in overall satisfaction has |
| 13 | | outperformed the scores of the industry and the Midwest region averages |
| 14 | | every year for each study. |
| 15 | | • A rank of 12th out of 60 electric utilities in the annual Key Accounts |
| | | National Benchmark Study by TQS Research of Alpharetta, Georgia. |
| 16 17 | | • A tie for 3rd out of 19 gas and electric companies in the American |
| 17 | | Customer Satisfaction Index produced by the Stephen M. Ross School of |
| 18 | | Business at the University of Michigan, in partnership with the American |
| 19 | | |
| 20 | | Society for Quality and the international consulting firm, CFI Group. |
| 21 | | In addition, Cinergy regularly surveys its residential customers who have |
| 22 | | had a recent service contact with the Company. These surveys are conducted |
| 23 | | throughout the year by an independent research firm. Cinergy's customer surveys |

point to strong customer service and attention to ULH&P's customer needs. The

Residential Customer Contact survey results from 1999 - 2005 confirms that

Cinergy delivers high quality customer service for the major types of customer

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25

26

| contacts. Over 33,000 customer responses have been accumulated over this |
|--|
| period and customers consistently rank customer satisfaction high with at least |
| 86% of these respondents being "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with the level of |
| service delivered by Cinergy. Our most recent surveys indicated that for 2005 |
| (YTD through May), 87% of Cinergy's customers who had contact with the |
| Company said they were either "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with the service |
| they received. ULH&P credits its long tradition of superior customer service to |
| its employees and an overall commitment to high standards. |

A.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE PRIMARY WAYS IN WHICH ULH&P PROVIDES CUSTOMER SERVICE.

ULH&P works to be highly accessible to its customers and to enable its customers to do business with us through a number of convenient methods. For example, we have highly trained call center representatives available to take calls including a new business service center devoted to our commercial and industrial consumers' needs. We also offer several self-service options through our Online Services as well as our automated telephone system. In addition, we offer a network of Pay Stations and Customer Service offices in various locations that enable customers to pay in person. These self-service channels combined with our call centers, Pay Stations and Customer Service offices offer customers the ability to do business with us through the method that best meets their needs.

ULH&P is also committed to providing a variety of customer programs and services that enable its customers to better manage their energy bills based on the varied needs of its customers. Some of the programs and services we offer are

| 1 | Budget Billing, BillPayer 2000, Home Energy House Call, Home Weatherization |
|---|--|
| 2 | Adjusted Due Date, Speedpay, e-Bill, as well as financial assistance for our |
| 3 | customers in need, through ULH&P's WinterCare program. |

4 Q. HOW WILL ULH&P CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THE SAME LEVEL OF 5 CUSTOMER SERVICE IN THE FUTURE?

A.

The merger between Cinergy and Duke Energy will have no adverse impact upon customer service. Like reliability, customer service is an issue that is valued and given high priority by both Cinergy and Duke Energy. In 2005, Duke Power's call center was recognized for call center operational excellence and customer satisfaction by J.D. Power and Associates, and joins Cinergy as the only two energy company call centers so recognized. Mr. Osborne further describes Duke Power's commitment and accomplishments in the area of customer service. The merger will allow ULH&P to access Duke Power's wealth of customer service experience. This will enable the New Duke Energy utility operating companies to develop "best practices" drawing on the experience of the former Duke Power and Cinergy operating companies. This added expertise will enhance ULH&P's ability to provide superior customer service.

The merger will also present opportunities for savings in the customer service area, through efficiencies gained in the various call centers. The merger savings estimates do not reflect closing any specific call centers. The estimated reduction in customer care personnel reflect efficiencies that can be gained through initiatives like digitally connecting the various call centers to allow for

optimal management of incoming calls. This integration should provide a larger pool of call center personnel available to handle ULH&P customer calls.

Our goal and belief is that the transition will appear seamless to our customers as the merger will not adversely change the quality of services they currently receive. ULH&P will continue to offer a variety of service options that provide accessibility and convenience, as well as a consistent customer service experience, regardless of the service channel. We will continue to have qualified and skilled customer service representatives available twenty-four hours a day to respond to power outage calls. Customers will also have access to our online services and automated telephone service, twenty-four hours a day to perform routine interactions or to obtain general billing and customer information.

We will also continue to staff qualified and skilled customer service representatives during core business hours to handle all types of customer inquiries. Our commitment to a Quality Assurance ("QA") process will remain intact to ensure that our call center is providing outstanding customer service. The QA process includes a review from trained mentors who listen to recorded telephone calls and then provide feedback and coaching, based on how the customer service representative handled the customer call.

Lastly, to ensure that the service we provide meets our customers' needs, we will continue to survey our customers regarding their satisfaction and will integrate this information into our processes, programs, and services that impact our customers.

We are committed to quality customer service, and the merger will only strengthen that commitment. And, as we combine with Duke Energy and come to learn their systems, processes, and operations for achieving superior customer service, we will adopt the best practices of our combined companies to the benefit of our ULH&P customers.

V. <u>COST SAVINGS/RATE IMPACTS</u>

6 Q. IS ULH&P A LOW COST GAS AND ELECTRICITY PROVIDER?

A.

Yes. ULH&P continues to deliver gas and electricity at low cost, and our dedication to cost control is reflected in our rates. ULH&P's gas and electric rates are very competitive, both regionally and nationwide.

ULH&P has a pending application to increase its gas rates, because the Commission ordered ULH&P to file this case in 2005 in order to continue Rider AMRP. This rider is a cost recovery mechanism for ULH&P's accelerated cast iron and bare steel main replacement program. ULH&P's electric rates remain frozen through 2006, due to ULH&P's commitments in prior cases involving its wholesale power contract with CG&E and the transfer of the three generating plants from CG&E to ULH&P. ULH&P's rates continue to be attractive when compared to both regional and national average gas and electric rates.

| l | Q. | PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW THE COST SAVINGS AND COSTS TO |
|---|----|---|
| 2 | | ACHIEVE SUCH SAVINGS EXPECTED TO RESULT FROM THE |
| 3 | | MERGER WERE CALCULATED AND HOW MUCH OF THOSE |
| 4 | | ESTIMATED SAVINGS ARE ALLOCABLE TO ULH&P. |
| | | |

A.

The testimony of Mr. Flaherty describes the expected level of merger savings. The savings are expected due to labor reductions in corporate, administrative, and operating areas, as well as cost savings in areas such as information technology and supply chain. Of course, there are costs associated with achieving these savings. As described in more detail in the testimony of Mr. Flaherty, the types of costs to achieve include: separation, relocation, retention, systems integration, facilities integration, internal and external communication, regulatory process and compliance, transition, directors' and officers insurance coverage, and transaction costs.

As Mr. Flaherty details, the overall gross cost savings in the corporate, shared services and regulated business support areas over the first five years following the close of the merger are expected to be approximately \$1.3 billion. For corporate, shared services and regulated business support areas, approximately \$696 million in out-of-pocket costs to achieve merger savings were identified related to the close of the merger and the realization of estimated cost savings.

As the testimony of Mr. Blackwell provides, these savings and costs are then allocated among the various companies. The regulated savings and costs are allocated among the utility operating companies, ULH&P, CG&E, PSI, and Duke Power, while the corporate and shared services savings and costs are allocated across a broader set of the New Duke Energy companies to arrive at company specific gross savings. The bottom line for ULH&P, in terms of estimated retail net merger savings over the first five years, is as follows, approximately:

A.

| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Five Year Total |
|----------|-----------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Gas | \$(0.7 M) | \$0.1 M | \$0.4 M | \$1.0 M | \$1.2 M | \$2.1 M |
| Electric | \$(2.2 M) | \$1.8 M | \$ <u>4.4 M</u> | \$ <u>5.6 M</u> | \$ <u>6.2 M</u> | \$ <u>16.0 M</u> |
| Total | \$(2.9 M) | \$1.9 M | \$4.8 M | \$6.6 M | \$7.4 M | \$18.1 M |

The fifth year savings is assumed to be steady-state savings that continues on an annual basis from year five going forward.

7 Q. HOW WOULD ULH&P'S RETAIL GAS AND ELECTRIC CUSTOMERS 8 REALIZE SUCH MERGER SAVINGS AND COSTS?

It depends on the type of savings and costs. For instance, any actual net fuel savings achieved will be automatically flowed through to customers via ULH&P's fuel adjustment clause after it becomes operational. Any deferred or cancelled capital expenditures will be benefit customers, as well. However, under the traditional regulatory framework, non-fuel savings would normally be retained by the utility until the time of the utility's next retail base rate case. Likewise, the costs incurred to achieve the merger savings would also be borne by the utility until the time of the next retail base rate case. At the time of the next rate case, the test period level, or a *pro forma* level, of merger related costs and savings would be reflected in base rates.

Q. DOES ULH&P HAVE A PROPOSAL TO SHARE THE NET MERGER

2 SAVINGS WITH CUSTOMERS PRIOR TO ITS NEXT BASE RATE

3 CASE?

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A.

Yes. ULH&P recognizes that savings will be realized from this transaction. As 4 A. mentioned above, there are also some related costs. Overall there will be net 5 savings, and ULH&P is willing to provide customers a share of these estimated 6 net savings, prior to the commencement of the next base rate case, in return for 7 deferral and prompt recovery of the underlying costs to achieve. The testimony of Mr. John P. Steffen explains the required deferred accounting authority, 9 ULH&P's proposed amortization of merger costs, and ULH&P's proposed 10 explicit sharing of net non-fuel savings with customers. Essentially, ULH&P 11 proposes to ramp up the level of net merger savings gas and electric customers 12 receive, with approximately \$363,200 in year one after the merger and ramping 13 up to approximately 50% of the net merger savings, or approximately \$1.8 14 million, by the fifth year after the merger is consummated. 15

16 Q. DO YOU BELIEVE THIS PROPOSAL IS FAIR TO CUSTOMERS AND 17 THE COMPANY?

Yes, I do. This proposal benefits customers in two significant ways. First, they will see the benefit of merger savings in their gas and electric bills much earlier than they would otherwise see them. ULH&P has a current gas rate case in progress. Although ULH&P will file a new retail electric base rate case in 2006, it will likely be some time before another base retail gas case will be processed. Second, under ULH&P's proposal, customers see some net benefit in Year 1,

even though costs are expected to exceed benefits in the first year. Third, because we are proposing to share these benefits based on our upfront estimates of savings to be achieved, customers are in effect guaranteed savings related to the merger, regardless of whether ULH&P actually achieves the savings. ULH&P will take the performance risk associated with actually producing the savings.

A.

An additional benefit to customers is that at the time of the next base rate case, customers will realize 100% of the actual net merger savings achieved.

The proposal is also fair to the Company and its investors, because it provides that ULH&P can recover the costs to achieve merger savings in a timely manner, without the necessity of waiting until the next base rate case. Under this proposal ULH&P and its investors bear the risk that ULH&P must achieve the estimated merger savings, so it is reasonable that there be a sharing of net benefits, and that the sharing percentages ramp up over time.

VI. FINANCIAL INTEGRITY

Q. PLEASE GENERALLY DESCRIBE ULH&P'S FINANCIAL STATUS.

We have worked to meet our investors' expectations to maintain investment grade credit ratings and to achieve fair returns for our equity investors. On the equity side, Cinergy has consistently outperformed its peers over the long term in total shareholder return. For 2004, Cinergy achieved a total shareholder return of 12.6%. On the fixed income investment side, we have solid liquidity. In addition, our investment grade credit ratings were reaffirmed in 2005. These

As Ms. Aumiller's and Mr. Steven M. Fetter's testimony indicate, following the announcement of the merger, Fitch and Moody's affirmed the credit ratings of Cinergy and its subsidiaries (including ULH&P)

| 1 | positive financial achievements benefit our customers as well as our investors, |
|---|--|
| 2 | through lower financing costs and ultimately through lower gas and electric rates. |

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE IMPACT OF THE MERGER ON ULH&P'S FINANCIAL INTEGRITY.

We do not believe the merger will adversely impact ULH&P's financial integrity. 5 A. The increased scale and scope of operations resulting from the merger will 6 strengthen the balance sheet of the New Duke Energy and increase financial 7 Additionally, ULH&P will retain the ability to obtain its own flexibility. financing, subject to regulatory approvals, just as today. ULH&P will not 9 guarantee the credit of any of its affiliates unless specifically approved by the 10 Commission. As the testimony of Ms. Wendy L. Aumiller and Mr. Steven M. 11 Fetter describe, we expect no adverse impact on ULH&P's financial integrity as a 12 result of the merger. 13

VII. <u>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</u>

14 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE ULH&P'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 15 INITIATIVES.

16 A. ULH&P remains active in the area of economic development. ULH&P's
17 longstanding support for state and local economic development efforts, combined
18 with ULH&P's competitive gas and electric rates, have resulted in a number of
19 Northern Kentucky economic development successes in which ULH&P has
20 played a part. With a small economic development staff (currently three persons),

and assigned a "Stable" outlook to these ratings. Standard & Poor's placed the credit ratings of Cinergy and its subsidiaries on Credit Watch with "Negative" implications.

| we estimate that our cooperative efforts with state and local economic |
|--|
| development officials have contributed to the creation of nearly 20,000 Kentuck |
| jobs and more than \$1.5 billion of capital investment in Northern Kentucky since |
| 1995. For example, when A-Carb LLC (A-Carb) located to Northern Kentucky |
| ULH&P's economic development staff worked diligently with A-Carb officials t |
| meet their needs, which ultimately led to the extension of a dedicated gas line. A |
| Carb has expanded twice since that time, in 2000 and 2001. |

For the last six years, Cinergy has been named as one of the "Top 10 Best" utility economic development programs by *Site Selection* magazine, including the top honor for the past two years. Even more important to us, our surveys of local economic development officials indicate that they are highly satisfied (100% satisfaction rate) with ULH&P's economic development efforts and services.

Additionally, ULH&P recently filed for and received approval of three new economic development rates, to encourage expansion of new and existing businesses, reuse of existing abandoned buildings, and the development of Brownfield sites. These riders are intended to be used in conjunction with other state and local government economic development efforts.

Finally, with \$200,000 from the Cinergy Foundation, Cinergy will provide grants to local or regional economic development organizations for projects which result in the creation of new jobs and/or new capital investment in Cinergy's service territories, including ULH&P's.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW THE MERGER WILL IMPACT ULH&P'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS.

ULH&P's commitment to economic development will not be adversely impacted. To the contrary, Duke Energy is as committed to economic development, as In 2004, 5,552 new jobs were created by Duke Power Cinergy has been. customers along with new investment of \$999 million. In addition, Duke Power has initiatives such as the North Carolina Community College Grants to fund manufacturing worker training and provides grants through AdvanceSC, which supports training, economic development projects and public assistance programs in South Carolina. The testimony of Mr. Osborne further describes Duke Power's superior economic development record. Additionally, the merger savings calculated by Mr. Flaherty did not assume any reductions in economic ULH&P's commitment to continued economic development personnel. development in Northern Kentucky will remain a top priority for the New Duke Energy.

VIII. CHARITABLE GIVING

- 14 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE ULH&P'S CHARITABLE GIVING PHILOSOPHY.
- 15 A. Cinergy and ULH&P make good corporate citizenship a priority by giving back to
 16 the communities we serve. Since 1994, our philanthropic affiliate, Cinergy
 17 Foundation, has contributed over \$1.9 million to Northern Kentucky charitable
 18 organizations in the communities we serve. And we strongly encourage a spirit of
 19 volunteerism among our employees, who contribute countless hours of volunteer
 20 time to support the many communities in which they live and work.
- 21 Q. HOW WILL ULH&P'S CHARITABLE GIVING BE IMPACTED BY THE
- 22 MERGER?

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A.

A. ULH&P's commitment to charitable giving will not be adversely impacted by the merger. In fact, Duke Energy shares this commitment as detailed in the testimony of Mr. Osborne. For instance in 2004, the Duke Energy Foundation total giving to charitable organizations was \$13.5 million. Additionally, both Duke Power and ULH&P have heating assistance programs, and encourage volunteerism among their employees.

A.

IX. <u>ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP</u>

7 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE ULH&P'S COMMITMENT TO THE 8 ENVIRONMENT.

Through its Environmental Leadership Pledge, Cinergy accepts that we are responsible for reducing the impact of our operations on the air, water and land. Cinergy pledges to conduct our business with respect for the environment, while providing our customers with low cost, reliable and efficient energy services.

In support of that pledge, Cinergy has been a leader in environmental issues beginning with Cinergy's support for the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, and continuing to today. Cinergy is a leader in supporting multi-pollutant reduction legislative efforts, voluntarily committing to greenhouse gas emission reductions, studying the effects of potential environmental policies through its 2004 Air Issues Report to Stakeholders, and continuing its comprehensive cost-effective environmental compliance planning. Cinergy is one of the few utility companies named to the Dow Jones World Sustainability Index - two years straight.

1 Q. HOW WILL ULH&P'S COMMITMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENT BE

2 IMPACTED BY THE MERGER?

Sustainability is an important part of Cinergy's mission and will remain an 3 A. important part of the New Duke Energy's mission. Duke Energy and Cinergy 4 have both supported reasonable carbon emissions policies, and reported carbon 5 dioxide emissions to our stakeholders. Duke Energy was instrumental in 6 supporting and promoting the North Carolina General Assembly's passage of the 7 Clean Smokestacks Act in 2002, state legislation designed to reduce NO_x and 8 SO₂. The U.S. EPA awarded the 2004 Clean Air Excellence award to Duke 9 Energy for its collaborative work that resulted in the Act. The New Duke Energy 10 will maintain a commitment to environmental stewardship. 11

X. <u>AFFILIATE TRANSACTIONS/AGREEMENTS</u>

12 Q. WHAT AFFILIATE AGREEMENTS IS ULH&P FILING WITH THE

13 **COMMISSION?**

ULH&P is filing five new or revised affiliate agreements with the Commission in 14 A. this proceeding: (1) Service Company Utility Service Agreement; (2) Operating 15 Company / Nonutility Companies Service Agreement; (3) Operating Companies 16 Service Agreement; (4) Money Pool Agreement; and a (5) Tax Sharing 17 Agreement. I will briefly discuss each of these; however, supporting testimony 18 from other ULH&P witnesses will provide more detail where indicated below. 19 ULH&P requests a deviation under KRS 278.2207(2) for the pricing terms of 20 these agreements, on the grounds that the requested pricing is reasonable and in 21 the public interest, for the reasons discussed below. 22

| 1 | Q. | PLEASE DESCRIBE THE PROPOSED SERVICE COMPANY UTILITY |
|---|----|--|
| 2 | | SERVICE AGREEMENT. |

A.

This agreement will allow the new Duke Energy service company, Duke Energy Shared Services, LLC to provide services to multiple subsidiary companies, including ULH&P. The agreement provides for direct assignment or allocation of various costs among the companies. The testimony of Mr. Blackwell sponsors this agreement and describes the efforts to create a new utility service agreement for the New Duke Energy, using as the basis the current Cinergy Service Agreement and the Duke Energy Business Services arrangement.

Even though PUHCA is being repealed, ULH&P and its affiliates intend to enter into this service agreement, which formerly would have been approved by the SEC, as a reasonable means of allocating costs among the affiliates. We also propose to have services flow from Duke Energy Shared Services at fully embedded cost, at least for ratemaking purposes, as formerly required by the PUHCA. ULH&P believes this is an appropriate transfer pricing mechanism because pricing at fully embedded cost is fundamentally fair to both affiliated parties and is ULH&P's and the SEC's historical practice for pricing public utility holding company service company transactions. Moreover, fully embedded cost pricing prevents cross-subsidization, and is readily verifiable. Finally, all such transactions will remain subject to the Commission's ratemaking authority.

Q. PLEASE DISCUSS ULH&P'S COMMITMENT IN THE CINERGY

MERGER SETTLEMENT RELATING TO THE RATEMAKING

TREATMENT OF TRANSACTIONS WITH AFFILIATES.

| 1 | A. | In Commission Case No. 94-104, ULH&P agreed not to seek to overturn or |
|----|----|---|
| 2 | | change a decision by the Commission which pertains to recovery or ratemaking |
| 3 | | treatment of any expenses or allocation incurred by ULH&P as a result of a |
| 4 | | transaction with any affiliate of ULH&P on the basis that such expense or |
| 5 | | allocation has been filed with or approved by the SEC, or was incurred pursuant |
| 6 | | to an SEC-approved contract or allocation method. |
| 7 | Q. | HOW IS THIS COMMITMENT AFFECTED BY THE REPEAL OF |
| 8 | | PUHCA? |
| 9 | A. | Clearly, because the SEC will no longer have jurisdiction over ULH&P under |
| 10 | | PUHCA, this commitment is no longer required. As such, the Commission's |
| 11 | | authority over cost recovery and ratemaking treatment for ULH&P's transactions |
| 12 | | with affiliates remains. |
| 13 | Q. | PLEASE DESCRIBE THE PROPOSED OPERATING COMPANY/ |
| 14 | | NONUTILITY COMPANIES SERVICE AGREEMENT, AND THE |
| 15 | | OPERATING COMPANIES SERVICE AGREEMENT. |
| 16 | A. | The Operating Company / Nonutility Companies Service Agreement is similar to |
| 17 | | another agreement governing certain service-related affiliate transactions that |
| 18 | | ULH&P has operated under for years, the Services Agreement. It is also an |
| 19 | | agreement that was formerly filed with and approved by the SEC. It will allow |
| 20 | | ULH&P to provide services to various non-regulated affiliated companies, and |

Mr. Blackwell also sponsors and describes this agreement.

vice versa, using fully embedded cost pricing at least for ratemaking purposes.

difference between this agreement and the currently approved Service Agreement

The primary

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is the inclusion of New Duke Energy non-regulated affiliates as entities that can receive or provide services to each other.

The proposed Operating Companies Service Agreement is an agreement between and among ULH&P, CG&E, PSI, Miami Power Corporation and Duke Power, LLC. It is similar in form and purpose to the Operating Company / Nonutility Companies Service Agreement. Under this agreement, the various utility companies could perform services for an affiliated utility company, using fully embedded cost pricing, at least for ratemaking purposes,.

Both agreements only provide for services. They do not provide for transfers of assets or goods, or power or fuel. These agreements will provide great value to ULH&P and both its non-regulated and regulated affiliates. The ability to draw upon the expertise and experience of its regulated and non-regulated affiliates, with pricing at cost, is a benefit to ULH&P, and ultimately ULH&P's customers. Just as with ULH&P's proposed pricing for service company activities, ULH&P believes fully embedded cost pricing is an appropriate transfer pricing mechanism in this context because it is fundamentally fair to both affiliated parties and is ULH&P's and the SEC's historical practice for pricing transactions under public utility holding company service agreements. Moreover, fully embedded cost pricing prevents cross-subsidization, and is readily verifiable.

1 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE REVISED MONEY POOL AGREEMENT.

- 2 A. ULH&P is currently a party to a Utility Money Pool Agreement, which provides
- for loans between and among ULH&P, its utility affiliates and Cinergy. This, too,
- is an agreement that formerly required SEC approval under PUHCA. Ms.
- Aumiller's testimony supports and describes the revisions to this agreement in
- 6 more detail. This agreement has provided significant benefit to ULH&P in the
- 7 past and those benefits will only be expanded in the future.

8 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE REVISED TAX SHARING AGREEMENT.

- 9 A. ULH&P is currently a party to a Cinergy Tax Sharing Agreement, which provides
- for the filing of consolidated tax returns. This is an agreement that formerly
- 11 required SEC approval under PUHCA. In her testimony, Ms. Lynn J. Good
- describes the revisions to this agreement in more detail.

XI. PLAN TO ACCOMPLISH MERGER IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW

- 13 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE PLAN TO ACCOMPLISH THE MERGER IN
- 14 ACCORDANCE WITH LAW.
- 15 A. The Joint Applicants have developed a plan to obtain the following state and
- federal approvals so that the merger will be accomplished in a lawful manner:
- Approval of this Commission in accordance with Kentucky statutory
- provisions governing utility mergers, based on ULH&P's utility
- operations in Kentucky;
- Approval of the Ohio Public Utilities Commission, based on CG&E's
- 21 utility operations in Ohio;

Approval of Indiana Utilities Regulatory Commission for PSI's new 1 affiliate agreements related to the merger; 2 Approval of the North Carolina Utilities Commission, based on Duke 3 Power's utility operations in North Carolina; 4 Approval of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina, based on 5 Duke Power's utility operations in South Carolina; 6 Approval of the FERC; 7 Approval of the NRC; 8 Approval of the FCC; 9 A filing under the Hart-Scott Rodino Act, although Joint Applicants do not 10 believe that the proposed acquisition will implicate any provision under 11 federal antitrust laws. 12 The Joint Applicants will provide the Commission with copies of these 13 applications and filings, and a copy of the orders by these other regulatory 14 agencies when they approve the merger. The merger thus will be accomplished in 15 16 accordance with law. XII. MERGER COMMITMENTS PLEASE IDENTIFY ATTACHMENT GCF-1. 17 Q. Attachment GCF-1 is a list of specific commitments that ULH&P is willing to 18 A. make related to the merger. The list is in addition to the other merger-related 19 commitments contained in my testimony and in the testimony of other witnesses. 20 I would note that ULH&P intends this list, together with the testimony in this

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| 1 | proceeding, to be comprehensive and to replace any preexisting Cinergy merger |
|---|---|
| 2 | commitments coming out of Case No. 94-104. |

XIII. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

| 3 | Q. | BASED ON YOUR FOREGOING TESTIMONY AND YOUR | | | | |
|----|----|--|--|--|--|--|
| 4 | | EXPERIENCE AS PRESIDENT OF ULH&P, DO YOU HAVE AN | | | | |
| 5 | | OPINION AS TO WHETHER DUKE ENERGY AND ITS AFFILIATES | | | | |
| 6 | | INVOLVED IN ACQUIRING CONTROL OF CINERGY HAVE THE | | | | |
| 7 | | FINANCIAL, TECHNICAL AND MANAGERIAL CAPABILITIES TO | | | | |
| 8 | | PROVIDE REASONABLE SERVICE FOR ULH&P'S CUSTOMERS? | | | | |
| 9 | A. | Yes. I believe that Duke Energy and the other Duke affiliates involved in the | | | | |
| 10 | | application have the financial, technical and managerial capabilities to provide | | | | |
| 11 | | reasonable service following the merger, and that the merger will enhance | | | | |
| 12 | | ULH&P's capabilities in these areas. The bases for my opinion are Cinergy's and | | | | |
| 13 | | ULH&P's commitment to high quality and reliable service, Duke Energy's | | | | |
| 14 | | commitments in these areas, and the fact that Jim Rogers and ULH&P have | | | | |
| 15 | | successfully merged before (when CG&E merged with PSI in 1994), with positive | | | | |
| 16 | | impacts for customers. | | | | |
| 17 | Q. | BASED ON YOUR FOREGOING TESTIMONY AND YOUR | | | | |
| 18 | | EXPERIENCE AS PRESIDENT OF ULH&P, DO YOU HAVE AN | | | | |
| 19 | | OPINION REGARDING WHETHER THE MERGER WILL BE IN | | | | |
| 20 | | ACCORDANCE WITH LAW, FOR A PROPER PURPOSE, AND | | | | |
| 21 | | CONSISTENT WITH THE PUBLIC INTEREST? | | | | |

- 1 A. Yes. I believe that the merger will be accomplished in accordance with all federal
- and state regulatory requirements, as I discussed earlier in my testimony. I also
- 3 believe the benefits from the merger for all of ULH&P's stakeholders, discussed
- 4 in my earlier testimony and the testimony of other witnesses, clearly establish that
- 5 the merger is for a proper purpose and in the best interest of the general public.
- 6 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY?
- 7 A. Yes.

VERIFICATION

| State of Ohio |) | |
|---------------------------|---|-----|
| |) | SS: |
| County of Hamilton |) | |

The undersigned, Gregory C. Ficke, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is President of The Union Light, Heat and Power Company and The Cincinnati Gas & Electric Company, and that the matters set forth in the foregoing testimony are true and correct to the best of his information, knowledge and belief.

on this 30 TH Subscribed and sworn to before me by GREGORY C. day of Jung , 2005.



My Commission Expires: No Expires:

MERGER COMMITMENTS

In addition to the commitments made in the testimony of the Joint Applicant witnesses, ULH&P makes the following commitments²:

- 1. ULH&P commits to provide the Kentucky Public Service Commission ("Commission") with access to the books and records of ULH&P and the books and records of any subsidiary of the new Duke Energy Corporation ("New Duke Energy") in which New Duke Energy holds a controlling interest, to the extent necessary to verify transactions with ULH&P.
- 2. ULH&P commits that it shall not incur any additional indebtedness, issue any additional securities, or pledge any assets to finance any part of Duke Energy Corporation's ("Duke Energy") acquisition of Cinergy Corp.'s ("Cinergy") stock.
- 3. The payment for Cinergy's stock shall be recorded on New Duke Energy's, Duke Energy's and Cinergy's books, and shall be excluded from the books of ULH&P for retail ratemaking purposes.
- 4. Any acquisition premium paid by Duke Energy for the Cinergy stock shall not be "pushed down" to ULH&P for retail ratemaking purposes.
- 5. No change in control payments will be allocated to the retail customers of ULH&P.
- 6. ULH&P commits to minimize, to the extent possible, any negative impacts on ULH&P's retail customer service and customer satisfaction levels resulting from workforce reductions due to the merger.
- 7. ULH&P commits to periodically filing the various reliability and service quality measurements as described in the testimony of Mr. John C. Procario, to enable the Commission to monitor ULH&P's commitment that reliability and service quality will not materially degrade as a result of the merger.
- 8. ULH&P commits that it will not achieve merger savings at the expense of material degradation in the adequacy and reliability of ULH&P's retail gas and electric service.

-1-

² None of these commitments, of course, are intended to limit the Commission's existing statutory authority.

- 9. ULH&P commits that, for at least two years following the merger, ULH&P shall maintain a substantial level of involvement in community activities, through annual charitable and other contributions, comparable to ULH&P's participation levels prior to the date of the merger.
- 10. ULH&P commits to maintaining ULH&P's pro-active stance on developing economic opportunities in Kentucky and supporting economic development activities throughout ULH&P's service territory.
- 11. ULH&P commits that the accounting and reporting system used by ULH&P will be adequate to provide assurance that directly assignable utility and non-utility costs are accounted for properly and that reports on the utility and non-utility operations are accurately presented.
- 12. ULH&P commits to implement and maintain cost allocation procedures that will accomplish the objective of preventing cross-subsidization, and be prepared to fully disclose all allocated costs, the portion allocated to ULH&P, complete details of the allocation methods, and justification for the amount and the method.
- 13. ULH&P commits to protect against cross-subsidization in transactions with affiliates.
- 14. ULH&P acknowledges that, for rate-making purposes, the Commission has jurisdiction over ULH&P's capital structure, financing, and cost of capital, and that the Commission will continue to exercise this jurisdiction.
- 15. ULH&P commits to implement the rate mechanism and accounting deferrals to flow back a portion of net merger savings to customers, as described in the testimony of Mr. John P. Steffen.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF TRANSACTION

An Agreement and Plan of Merger by and among Duke Energy, Cinergy, Duke Energy Holding Corp., a Delaware corporation ("Holdings")¹, Deer Acquisition Corp.², a North Carolina Corporation ("Deer Acquisition") and Cougar Acquisition Corp.³, a Delaware corporation ("Cougar Acquisition"), was entered into May 8, 2005 ("Plan of Merger"). The Plan of Merger sets forth a series of mergers and restructuring transactions as described below that will implement the business combination of Duke Energy and Cinergy.

Before the effective time of the Plan of Merger, Duke Energy will redeem all the outstanding shares of its preferred stock (the "Preferred Stock Redemption"). Under the Preferred Stock Redemption, each holder of Preferred Stock, par value \$100 per share, and Preferred Stock A, par value \$25 per share, will receive the redemption price to which it is entitled under the applicable preferred stock series, together with all dividends accrued and unpaid to the date of such redemption.

Following the Preferred Stock Redemption, Duke Energy will be merged with and into Deer Acquisition (the "Deer Acquisition Merger") in accordance with the North Carolina Business Corporation Act (the "NCBCA"). As part of the transaction, the common stock shareholders of Duke Energy will receive shares of Holdings common

¹ Holdings, a signatory to the Plan of Merger, has previously been created as a shell subsidiary of Duke Energy solely for purposes of achieving the Plan of Merger.

Deer Acquisition, a signatory to the Plan of Merger, has previously been created as a shell subsidiary of Duke Energy solely for purposes of achieving the Plan of Merger.

³ Cougar Acquisition, one of the signatories to the Plan of Merger, has previously been created as a shell corporation solely for purposes of achieving the Plan of Merger.

stock on a one-for-one basis. Duke Energy will be the surviving corporation and will continue its corporate existence under the laws of the State of North Carolina. It also will become a wholly-owned subsidiary of Holdings.

After the Deer Acquisition Merger becomes effective, Duke Energy will convert to a limited liability company to be called Duke Power Company LLC (the "Duke Energy Conversion") pursuant to a plan of conversion adopted under Section 55-11A-11 of the NCBCA and Section 57C-9A-02 of the North Carolina Limited Liability Company Act. Conversion of Duke Energy to a limited liability company is a tax efficient means of addressing the potential tax impact of the distribution to Holdings of Duke Energy's limited liability company interests in Duke Capital LLC ("Duke Capital") described below. Following the Duke Energy Conversion, Duke Power Company LLC will remain a wholly-owned subsidiary of Holdings in that all of the limited liability company interests in Duke Power Company LLC will be held by Holdings. Additionally, Duke Power will remain a public utility subject to this Commission's jurisdiction.

Immediately following the effectiveness of the Duke Energy Conversion, Duke Power Company LLC will distribute to Holdings all of the limited liability company interests in Duke Capital, causing Duke Capital to be a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of Holdings. Duke Capital will continue to own all of its direct and indirect subsidiaries, comprising all of the unregulated businesses of Duke Energy prior to completion of the merger.

After the Duke Capital distribution, Cougar Acquisition will be merged with and into Cinergy in accordance with the Delaware General Corporation Law (the "DGCL") (the "Cougar Merger"). In connection with the mergers, each Cinergy shareholder will

receive 1.56 shares of Holdings common stock for each share of Cinergy common stock he or she owns. Cinergy will be the surviving corporation in the Cougar Merger and will continue its corporate existence under the laws of the State of Delaware. As a result of the Cougar Merger, Cinergy will become a wholly-owned subsidiary of Holdings.

Pursuant to the Plan of Merger and following consummation of the above transactions, Holdings will change its name to "Duke Energy Corporation" (hereinafter "New Duke Energy"). Based on the number of shares outstanding as of May 8, 2005, current Duke Energy shareholders will own approximately 76 percent of Holdings' common stock and current Cinergy shareholders will own approximately 24 percent of Holdings' common stock. New Duke Energy will maintain its headquarters in Charlotte, North Carolina.

As a result of the merger, New Duke Energy will establish a services company to be named Duke Energy Shared Services LLC ("DESS"), to provide goods and services to its utility and non-utility subsidiaries. DESS either will be formed from the existing service company, Cinergy Services, Inc., currently owned by Cinergy, or established as an entirely new company.

At the same time or shortly thereafter, ownership for a number of generation facilities located in the Midwest (collectively, the "DENA Midwest Assets") which are owned and operated by DENA subsidiaries (collectively, the "DENA Subsidiaries") are intended to be transferred to CG&E, subject to the receipt of necessary approvals and

consents.⁴ These transfers will allow operational efficiencies and synergies that should significantly reduce operating costs for the combined generation fleet.

The DENA Midwest Assets and DENA Subsidiaries are:

- the Fayette Energy Facility, a natural gas-fired combined cycle generating facility located near Masontown, Pennsylvania with a nominal capacity of 620 MW, owned and operated by Duke Energy Fayette ("Duke Fayette"), a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of DENA;
- the Hanging Rock Energy Facility, a natural gas-fired electric generation plant located in Lawrence County, Ohio with a nominal capacity of 1,240 MW, operated by Duke Energy Handing Rock, LLC ("Duke Hanging Rock"), a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of DENA;
- the Lee Energy Facility, a natural gas-fired, simple cycle electric generation plant located in Lee County, Illinois with a nominal capacity of 640 MW, owned and operated by Duke Energy Lee, LLC ("Duke Lee"), an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of DENA;⁵
- an undivided 75% interest in the Vermillion Energy Facility, a 648 MW gas-fired generation facility located in Vermillion County, Indiana, with such interest and corresponding entitlements owned and operated by Duke Energy Vermillion, LLC ("Duke Vermillion"), an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of DENA;⁶ and
- the Washington Energy Facility, a natural gas-fired electric generation facility located in Washington County, Ohio with a nominal capacity of 620 MW, owned and operated by Duke Energy Washington, LLC ("Duke Washington"), a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of DENA.

⁴ The transfer of the DENA Midwest Assets could take place on a piecemeal basis as necessary approvals and consents are received.

⁵ Duke Lee is a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of Duke Energy Lee Holding, Inc. which, in turn, is a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of DENA.

⁶ Duke Vermillion is a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of Duke Energy Trenton, LLC ("Duke Trenton"). Duke Trenton is a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of DE Power Generating, LLC which, in turn, is a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of DE Power Generating Holdings, LLC ("DPGH"). DPGH is a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of Catawba River Investments II, LLC which, in turn, is a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of DENA.

The transfer of ownership of the DENA Midwest Assets will be accomplished either as a transfer of the assets to CG&E by the appropriate DENA Subsidiary, or as a transfer of the DENA Subsidiary itself. In the more likely event that transfer is accomplished as a transfer of the DENA Subsidiary itself, such transfer could be accomplished by having the owner of the DENA Subsidiary transfer its rights, title, and interest directly to CG&E or through a multiple-step process where, for business reasons, the DENA Subsidiary could be transferred momentarily to one or more Duke Energy entities before being transferred to CG&E. Once a DENA Subsidiary has been transferred to CG&E, the DENA Subsidiary may be merged with CG&E, with CG&E remaining as the surviving entity. Regardless of whether the transfer of the DENA Midwest Assets is accomplished through the transfer of a DENA Subsidiary's assets or the entire DENA Subsidiary, CG&E will be the entity that owns and controls the DENA Midwest Assets.

Duke Energy intends to effectuate the transfer of its DENA Midwest Assets as an equity infusion into CG&E at book value. In conjunction with the transfer of these assets, Duke Energy or another appropriate affiliate intends to enter into a financial arrangement with CG&E to eliminate any potential cash shortfalls that may result from owning and operating these assets.

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

| In | the | Matter | of: |
|----|-----|--------|-----|
| | | | |

| Joint Application of Duke Energy Corporation, |) | |
|---|---|---------------------|
| Duke Energy Holding Corp., Deer Acquisition |) | |
| Corp., Cougar Acquisition Corp., Cinergy Corp., |) | Case No. 2005-00228 |
| The Cincinnati Gas & Electric Company, and |) | |
| The Union Light, Heat and Power Company for |) | |
| Approval of a Transfer and Acquisition |) | |
| of Control |) | |
| | | |

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

JOHN C. PROCARIO

ON BEHALF OF

JOINT APPLICANTS

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APPENDIX

ATTACHMENT JCP - 1 - Rolling 12 Month Average for Past Ten Years for ULH&P, SAIFI, CAIDI and SAIDI.

I. INTRODUCTION

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|---|----|------------------------------|--|
| 2 | A. | My name is John C. Procario. | My business address is 139 East Fourth Stree |

PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.

3 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.

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O.

4 Q. WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT POSITION?

- 5 A. I am Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Cinergy Corp.'s
 6 ("Cinergy") Regulated Businesses Unit.
- 7 Q. WILL YOU PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR EDUCATION AND
 8 PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS?
- I received a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering from Ohio State
 University in 1973. I was awarded an Ohio Electric Utility Institute Fellowship
 and received a Master of Science degree concentrating in electric power from
 Ohio State University in 1974. I also completed approximately 30 credit hours in
 the MBA program at the University of Cincinnati.

I began my professional career with The Cincinnati Gas & Electric Company ("CG&E") in 1974 and have held various engineering and managerial positions, including Manager of Electric Planning and Manager of Electric System Operations. After the merger of the former parent company of PSI Energy, Inc. ("PSI") and CG&E to form Cinergy in 1994, I became General Manager of Electric System Operations for the Cinergy domestic utility subsidiaries, including The Union Light Heat and Power Company ("ULH&P" or "Company"). In 1998, I was promoted to Vice President of Electric Operations, and in 2000, I was promoted to Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for Cinergy's Regulated

| 1 | | Businesses business unit. I was made Senior Vice President and Chief Operating | | |
|----------|---|---|--|--|
| 2 | | Officer in November of 2003. | | |
| 3 | | I have also taught various electric power systems courses in the College of | | |
| 4 | | Engineering at the University of Cincinnati, starting as a Lecturer in 1975 and | | |
| 5 | | progressing to Adjunct Professor. | | |
| 6 | | I am or have been a member of various industry committees and | | |
| 7 | | organizations, including the East Central Area Reliability ("ECAR") Executive | | |
| 8 | Board, the North American Electric Reliability Council ("NERC") Engineering | | | |
| 9 | Committee, the EPRI Electrical Systems Division Committee, the Midwest ISO | | | |
| 10 | Advisory Committee, and the North American Energy Standards Board | | | |
| 11 | | ("NAESB") Board of Directors. | | |
| 12 | | I am also a registered professional engineer in Ohio. | | |
| 13 | Q. | PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR DUTIES AS VICE PRESIDENT AND | | |
| 14 | | CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER OF CINERGY'S REGULATED | | |
| 15 | | BUSINESSES UNIT. | | |
| 16 | A. | As Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Cinergy's Regulated | | |
| 17 | | | | |
| 1 / | | Businesses Unit, I am responsible for the planning and operation of the Cinergy | | |
| 18 | | | | |
| | | Businesses Unit, I am responsible for the planning and operation of the Cinergy | | |
| 18 | | Businesses Unit, I am responsible for the planning and operation of the Cinergy regulated utility companies' gas and electric systems. This responsibility extends | | |
| 18 19 | | Businesses Unit, I am responsible for the planning and operation of the Cinergy regulated utility companies' gas and electric systems. This responsibility extends to overseeing electric transmission and distribution planning, design, construction, | | |

maintenance of its electric and gas transmission and distribution systems.

23

1 Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS

2 **PROCEEDING?**

- 3 A. The purpose of my testimony is: (1) to describe ULH&P's gas and electric
- delivery system; (2) to explain ULH&P's overall policies relating to reliability and
- 5 how ULH&P measures the reliability of its system; and (3) to explain that the
- 6 proposed merger (the "Merger") of Cinergy and Duke Energy Corporation ("Duke
- 7 Energy") will not adversely affect the reliability of ULH&P's system.

II. <u>ULH&P'S ELECTRIC AND GAS DELIVERY SYSTEM</u>

8 Q. PLEASE GENERALLY DESCRIBE THE ULH&P ELECTRIC AND GAS

9 **DELIVERY SYSTEM.**

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A.

ULH&P owns and operates all of its electric distribution and local transmission Its parent, CG&E, owns and operates, subject to the Midwest facilities. Independent Transmission System Operator ("Midwest ISO") functional control, the bulk transmission facilities located in ULH&P's service territory. The ULH&P's electric and gas delivery system is used, among other things, to deliver retail electric and gas service to nearly 145,000 customers located in all or portions of six counties in northern Kentucky. ULH&P's electric delivery system includes approximately 106 circuit miles of transmission lines operating at 69 kV. It also includes 2,100 miles of primary distribution circuits operating at 34.5 kV or lower and approximately 800 miles of secondary distribution circuits operating at The delivery system also includes approximately 31 480 volts or below. distribution substations, and 2 combined transmission and distribution substations with a combined capacity of approximately 1,400,000 kVA and various other

| 1 | equipment and facilities. While the ULH&P electric system is not directly |
|---|--|
| 2 | interconnected with any other control areas, it is served by transmission facilities |
| 3 | within the Cinergy control area which, in turn, is directly interconnected with a |
| 4 | total of 11 control areas. |
| | |

ULH&P currently provides natural gas distribution service to customers in Boone, Campbell, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton and Pendleton counties in Northern Kentucky. ULH&P natural gas facilities include 3 city gate stations connected to 2 interstate pipelines, 1,322 miles of transmission and distribution mains, 160 pressure regulating stations, and one propane storage cavern with associated vaporization plant. System pressures range from 392 psig to ½ psig.

- 11 Q. YOU MENTIONED THAT THE CINERGY CONTROL AREA IS
- DIRECTLY INTERCONNECTED WITH 11 OTHER CONTROL AREAS.
- 13 IS THE CINERGY CONTROL AREA DIRECTLY INTERCONNECTED
- 14 WITH THE DUKE POWER CONTROL AREA?
- 15 A. No, it is not.

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- 16 Q. WHAT ARE THE COMPANY'S OBJECTIVES IN DESIGNING,
- 17 CONSTRUCTING, OPERATING AND MAINTAINING ITS ELECTRIC
- 18 **DELIVERY SYSTEM?**
- 19 A. In designing, constructing, operating and maintaining its facilities, the Company strives to provide safe, cost-effective and reliable electric service.
- 21 Q. PLEASE GENERALLY DESCRIBE HOW ULH&P'S TRANSMISSION
- 22 AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IS DESIGNED, CONSTRUCTED AND
- 23 **OPERATED.**

| The electric transmission system is designed to deliver bulk electric power from |
|---|
| local generating plants and other resources to regional substations, or to |
| interconnect with other systems in order to enhance system reliability. Typical |
| transmission voltages for ULH&P are 69 kV. The Cinergy Joint Transmission |
| Agreement provides for the planning and operation of the combined transmission |
| system of the Cinergy Electric Utilities as an integrated utility system. Cinergy |
| Services is designated as the agent for PSI and CG&E, on behalf of ULH&P, |
| under the Cinergy Joint Transmission Agreement. The Cinergy Joint |
| Transmission Agreement also provides criteria for cost assignment and allocation |
| of transmission facilities and revenues for the combined transmission system of |
| the Cinergy Electric Utilities. This Agreement will remain in place after the |
| merger. |

A.

The physical design of the electric system is generally governed by the National Electrical Safety Code ("NESC"). The system is operated in accordance with ECAR and NERC guidelines, and is under the functional control of the Midwest ISO.

The electric distribution system is designed to receive bulk power at transmission voltages, reduce the voltage to 12.5 kV or 4 kV for delivery to distribution transformers and ultimate delivery of power to customers' premises. The physical design of the distribution system is also generally governed by the NESC.

The gas distribution system is designed in accordance with applicable safety codes promulgated by the United States Department of Transportation,

| located at Code of Federal Regulations, Title 49 and by the American Society of |
|---|
| 2 Testing Materials. ULH&P follows the Department of Transportation safety |
| 3 regulations and the Commission's safety regulations in installing, operating and |
| 4 maintaining transmission and distribution facilities. |
| The Company monitors system performance with various systems such as |
| 6 Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition ("SCADA") and Trouble Call Outage |
| 7 Management System ("TCOMS"), fully implemented in 2002. |
| 8 Q. PLEASE GENERALLY DESCRIBE HOW ULH&P'S DELIVERY |
| 9 SYSTEM IS MAINTAINED. |
| 10 A. ULH&P maintains its delivery system in accordance with good utility practice by |
| following several inspections, monitoring, testing, and periodic maintenance |
| programs. Examples of these programs include: substation inspection program |
| line inspection program, vegetation management program, underground cabl |

line inspection program, vegetation management program, underground cable
testing and replacement program, capacitor maintenance program, infrared
scanning of equipment, leak surveys, pipeline patrol, valve inspections, and
cathodic protection program and dissolved gas analysis. ULH&P uses various
reliability indices to measure the effectiveness of its maintenance programs and
system reliability.

PLEASE DESCRIBE SOME OF THE FACTORS THAT THE COMPANY

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE SOME OF THE FACTORS THAT THE COMPANY

MUST CONSIDER IN ATTEMPTING TO ACHIEVE ITS OBJECTIVES

OF PROVIDING SAFE, COST-EFFECTIVE AND RELIABLE ELECTRIC

AND GAS SERVICE.

The Company must provide safe and reliable service while at the same time responsibly managing the costs of providing such service. The Company weighs various factors in selecting the gas and electric delivery system projects in which to invest, including the Company's planning criteria, requirements mandated either by regulatory authorities or reliability councils, and project cost versus customer benefits to name a few.

Q. HOW DOES THE COMPANY BALANCE ALL OF THESE FACTORS?

A.

A.

Annually, electric system studies are performed to determine where and when system modifications are needed to ensure load is adequately served. When these needs are identified, multiple solutions are developed, addressing not only the capacity need, but also providing opportunities to maintain or improve reliability and operating flexibility. Recommendations are made and discussed with the operations staff to ensure a balanced, workable plan has been developed.

In addition, for the gas business, system analysis is performed through modeling. These models are used to determine where and when system modifications are needed to ensure proper pressures are maintained to adequately serve the customer base. Standards and procedures must be followed and facilities maintained in accordance with these state and federal regulations. Quality assurance programs are followed such as the Integrity Management Program, the Cast Iron Maintenance Optimization System, Bare Steel Maintenance Optimization System, Accelerated Main Replacement Programs ("AMRP") and the Riser Optimization Program. These programs are used to monitor the condition of the system and to replace deteriorated equipment.

| 1 | | Further, the Company utilizes rigorous analytical techniques and | | |
|----|----|--|--|--|
| 2 | | aggressively negotiates with natural gas interstate pipelines and suppliers to | | |
| 3 | | purchase gas at a cost that is consistently one of the lowest in the state of | | |
| 4 | | Kentucky. When compared to the other three major LDCs in the state, the | | |
| 5 | | Company was the lowest cost provider of natural gas in three of the last five years. | | |
| 6 | | The policies and procedures currently in place for natural gas procurement are | | |
| 7 | | expected to continue after the merger. | | |
| 8 | Q. | YOU STATED THAT THE CINERGY TRANSMISSION SYSTEM IS | | |
| 9 | | UNDER THE FUNCTIONAL CONTROL OF THE MIDWEST ISO. WILL | | |
| 10 | | THIS CHANGE AS A RESULT OF THE PROPOSED CINERGY/DUKE | | |
| 11 | | MERGER? | | |
| 12 | A. | No. As this Commission is aware, Cinergy was instrumental in creation and | | |
| 13 | | development of the Midwest ISO. We are committed to support the regional | | |
| 14 | | transmission organization and its role in transmission grid reliability for | | |
| 15 | | ULH&P's customers. | | |
| | | III. RELIABILITY OF ULH&P'S ELECTRIC AND GAS DELIVERY SYSTEM | | |
| 16 | Q. | DO YOU HAVE AN OPINION AS TO THE RELIABILITY OF ULH&P'S | | |
| 17 | | SERVICE TO ITS CUSTOMERS? | | |
| 18 | A. | Yes. In my opinion ULH&P does an exceptional job of maintaining reliability of | | |
| 19 | | service. This opinion is based on my experience and observations as well as the | | |
| 20 | | various indices that we track and use to measure the reliability of our system. | | |

| 1 | Q. | YOU STATED THAT ULH&P USES VARIOUS INDICES TO MEASURE | | |
|----|--|---|--|--|
| 2 | | SYSTEM RELIABILITY. PLEASE EXPLAIN THESE RELIABILITY | | |
| 3 | | INDICES. | | |
| 4 | A. | These electric reliability indices are generally recognized standards for measuring | | |
| 5 | | the number, scope and duration of outages. | | |
| 6 | | Customer Average Interruption Duration Index ("CAIDI") is the average | | |
| 7 | | interruption duration or average time to restore service per interrupted customer, | | |
| 8 | | and is expressed by the sum of the customer interruption durations divided by the | | |
| 9 | | total number of customer interruptions. | | |
| 10 | | System Average Interruption Duration Index ("SAIDI") is the average time | | |
| 11 | | each customer is interrupted, and is expressed by the sum of customer interruption | | |
| 12 | | durations divided by the total number of customers served. | | |
| 13 | | System Average Interruption Frequency Index ("SAIFI") is the system | | |
| 14 | | average interruption frequency index, and represents the average number of | | |
| 15 | interruptions per customer. SAIFI is expressed by the total number of customer | | | |
| 16 | | interruptions divided by the total number of customers served. | | |
| 17 | | A significant portion of the incentive compensation for employees | | |
| 18 | | responsible for system reliability is tied to system performance as measured by | | |
| 19 | | reliability indices, such as these. Incentive compensation is also tied to how our | | |
| 20 | | customers grade or judge our response after an outage occurs. | | |
| 21 | Q. | HOW HAS ULH&P'S SYSTEM PERFORMED AS MEASURED BY | | |

THESE RELIABILITY INDICES?

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For electric, ULH&P's system has performed well. ULH&P's Attachment JCP-1 shows the ULH&P data for these three indices for the last 10 years, both with and without effects of major storms. In my opinion, this is an excellent reliability record. Virtually all utilities that have implemented outage management software systems such as TCOMS (discussed below) have experienced deterioration in their reliability indices' statistics. This does not mean that reliability has deteriorated, just that the utility is capturing more and better outage data. I believe that overall service improves with the use of such systems because it promotes better service restoration, as discussed below.

A.

Gas Operations' major reliability measures are leaks repaired for its gas distribution system and the duration of customer outages. ULH&P's leak repairs have declined significantly, from 983 in 1999 to 537 in 2004, as a direct result of the AMRP. AMRP is a program to accelerate ULH&P's replacement rate for cast iron and bare steel mains, in order to improve the safety and reliability of its natural gas distribution system.

Customer outage duration is measured by CAIDI. Although CAIDI currently is not a gas industry accepted reliability measurement, Cinergy's Gas Operations has been a leader in tracking reliability by average duration of customer outages. We have advocated with the American Gas Association ("AGA") for acceptance of industry reliability standards, such as CAIDI. In 2003, only six companies responding to an AGA benchmarking study reported utilizing CAIDI as a reliability measurement. Cinergy's Gas Operations' 2004 CAIDI index was 5.4 hours.

| Currently, the most accepted reliability standard utilized within the gas |
|---|
| industry is Outages per 1,000 Customers. In a 2003 AGA Benchmarking Study |
| on Outages per 1,000 Customers, Cinergy's Gas Operations placed 5 th best out of |
| 46 U.S. companies participating in the study. |

5 Q. WHAT FACTORS CONTRIBUTE TO THE RELIABILITY OF ULH&P'S

DELIVERY SYSTEM?

A.

In my opinion there are a number of factors, beginning with the design, construction, operation and maintenance of the system, as discussed above. This year ULH&P will invest approximately \$44 million on the Kentucky gas and electric delivery system. We will inspect and repair over 1250 miles of electric transmission and distribution lines and we will continue with our normal vegetation control. We are also installing a new "state-of-the-art" radio system used for daily operations and for emergency responses to system outages. The ongoing Integrity Management Program activities for 2005 include: identification of high consequence areas, evaluating pipeline threats and conducting risk assessments for each covered pipeline segment, identifying and implementing additional preventive and mitigation measures, conducting integrity assessments through pressure testing or direct assessment methods, and remediating conditions found during integrity assessments.

Even the best design, construction, operations and maintenance of transmission and distribution facilities will not prevent all outages. When storms and other events create outages, restoration of service becomes the priority for

| 1 | providing reliable service. The Cinergy utilities consider service restoration to be |
|---|--|
| 2 | an important part of reliability. |

3 Q. WHAT ARE SOME OF THE KEY FACTORS FOR SUPERIOR SERVICE

RESTORATION?

A.

That depends on the type and magnitude of the outages the Company is dealing with. Routine minor outages such as ones caused by a vehicle knocking down a pole or a minor equipment failure are normally handled by our local service personnel located throughout ULH&P's service territory. Having experienced people and the necessary equipment available in the area is essential.

Major service restoration efforts, such as those required after a significant storm require far more effort and planning. Cinergy has emphasized emergency planning and preparation for dealing with these events. We have a comprehensive emergency plan in place that has been refined over time. This plan provides for the quick response and highly coordinated efforts of a large number of employees for different levels and types of emergency situations. For example, system operators continuously monitor weather conditions. When lightning, wind or ice storms approach or hit ULH&P's service territory, line crews are called or held over to respond. ULH&P will often call in several hundred employees to respond to severe storms, including Cinergy employees stationed in Ohio and Indiana. We also mobilize other employees such as transportation, information technology, and engineering personnel as necessary or required. If necessary, ULH&P will contact other utilities for additional line crews through a mutual assistance program. We routinely set up an emergency response center adjacent to the System Operations

- 1 Center to coordinate storm operations and use several sophisticated tools such as
 2 the trouble call outage management system ("TCOMS"), crew tracking and outage
 3 reporting to provide decision support. In some cases, we locate emergency
 4 response centers in affected areas to better coordinate our response.
- 5 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW THE TCOMS SYSTEM HELPS THE
 6 RELIABILITY OF THE ULH&P SYSTEM.

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Α.

TCOMS is a tool to help with the restoration of service after an outage has occurred. It is used both for routine outages and for major events. Customers typically report outages by telephone through ULH&P's call center. The call center creates an outage call through a telephone software application that interfaces with TCOMS, a state-of-the-art outage management software application that ULH&P adopted in 2001 to improve its ability to monitor and TCOMS analyzes the calls and identifies to ULH&P's respond to outages. dispatchers the piece of equipment (circuit breaker, recloser, fuse, transformer, etc.) that has isolated the probable location of the outage. The dispatcher contacts the field trouble response person through the radio system to direct him/her to the location to make repairs and restore electric service to the customers. Generally, the field trouble response person inspects the circuit or segment of line in question to identify and report the cause of the outage. Cinergy has recently committed to a new, upgraded version of TCOMS, and expects to have this newer version available by the end of the year.

IV. RELIABILITY AFTER THE MERGER

22 Q. WILL THE PROPOSED MERGER OF THE CINERGY COMPANIES,

INCLUDING ULH&P WITH DUKE ENERGY, HAVE ANY IMPACT ON

2 THE RELIABILITY OF ULH&P'S SERVICE?

A.

A. In my opinion there will not be any adverse impacts on ULH&P's reliability as a result of the Merger. Cinergy has been committed to providing reliable service and this commitment will continue after the Merger. There are no plans to eliminate service centers as a part of the Merger; there are no plans to eliminate control centers as a part of the Merger; there are no plans to reduce equipment, such as crew trucks as a part of the Merger; there are no plans to reduce the numbers of critical field personnel such as electric linemen, gas mechanic operators or the plant personnel; and, as discussed by Richard Osborne, Duke Energy is also committed to reliability. In my opinion, the only impacts on reliability arising from this Merger will be positive.

Q. WHY DO YOU BELIEVE THAT THERE WILL POSITIVE IMPACTS ON RELIABILITY ARISING OUT OF THE PROPOSED MERGER?

My belief is based on our experience implementing the Cinergy merger. We found that PSI and CG&E had different approaches to some issues. We were able to select best practices from both companies. The operating companies have also been able to share personnel, call center capacity, equipment and spare parts. In my opinion, this has led to better service for our customers throughout the Cinergy system. I would expect to see some of the same results from this Merger.

Q. ARE THERE OBJECTIVE INDICES THAT THIS COMMISSION COULD USE TO MEASURE ULH&P's RELIABILITY?

- 1 A. Yes. As I mentioned, ULH&P tracks its reliability in accordance with, CAIDI,
- 2 SAIDI, and SAIFI, which are generally recognized standards for measuring
- 3 electric reliability. As a way for this Commission to monitor ULH&P's reliability
- 4 after the merger, ULH&P will commit to make an annual filing with this
- 5 Commission that sets forth ULH&P's CAIDI, SAIDI, and SAIFI data for the
- 6 previous year.
- 7 Q. WAS ATTACHMENT JCP-1 PREPARED BY YOU OR UNDER YOUR
- **8 SUPERVISION?**
- 9 A. Yes, it was.
- 10 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?
- 11 A. Yes.

VERIFICATION

| State of Ohio |) | |
|--------------------|---|----|
| |) | SS |
| County of Hamilton |) | |

The undersigned, John C. Procario, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is Senior Vice President for The Union Light, Heat and Power Company and The Cincinnati Gas & Electric Company, and Chief Operating Officer, Regulated Businesses for Cinergy Corp., and that the matters set forth in the foregoing testimony are true and correct to the best of his information, knowledge and belief.

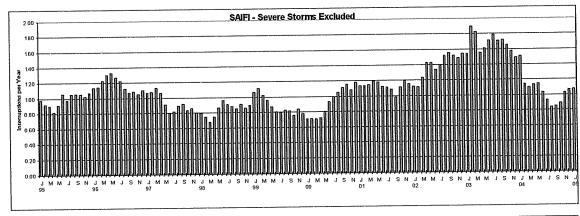
John C. Procario, Affiant

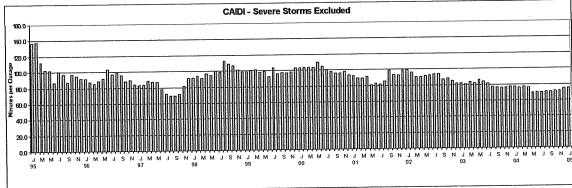
Subscribed and sworn to before me by John C. Procario on this 1st day of July, 2005.

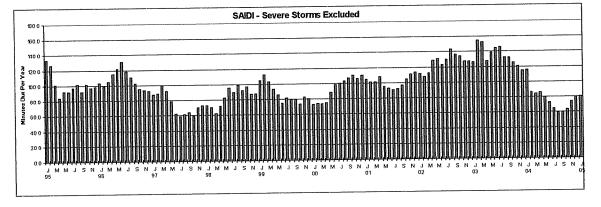
NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: 9-15-09

PATTY A. SELM NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF OHIO My Commission Expires 09-15-2000 The following three charts show the rolling 12 month average for the past ten years for ULH&P SAIFI, CAIDI, and SAIDI with major storms removed.







The following three charts show the rolling 12 month average for the past ten years for ULH&P SAIFI, CAIDI, and SAIDI with no major storm exclusions.

